



*Holy Family Catholic Primary School*

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*We pray together. We play together. We learn together.*

# Year One Newsletter

Dear Parents / Carers,

I hope you all had a lovely half term holiday and enjoyed your time together!

## Literacy

We have been thinking about the fairytale story of Little Red Riding Hood this week and enjoyed thinking about all aspects of the story. We retold the story outside and used our imagination to talk about the sights and sounds of the forest. We spotted a ferocious wolf who pretended to be the grandma!

We also spent some time thinking about healthy eating and what healthy foods Little Red Riding Hood could have in her basket. We drew healthy snacks and put them in the basket and we also acted out the story during the provision time. We had a great time learning about animals that are predators and animals that are prey and found out that wolves are predators!

## Maths

As a school we have been trialling a new approach to Maths teaching inspired by the teaching of Maths in Shanghai and Singapore. The approach is new to our school and comprises of different parts of the lesson that encourage problem solving and discussion of mathematical links. In Year One we have been using what we called the 'hook' to begin our lessons. This will be a problem to be investigated in small groups at the start of the lesson. We have used Captain Hook from Peter Pan to help us to introduce our hook to the class and they have done so well. It is not easy to investigate and explain your findings at such a young age and can be difficult to do so but as explained to you before at Parents Evening and our Coffee Morning, this attitude towards learning in Maths is key in supporting children to make links and deepen their understanding.

This week Miss George has taken our Maths lessons. She says - I have really enjoyed my first week of teaching Maths to Year 1 this week. They are such a lovely class!

This week we have learnt that 2 digit numbers have two numbers next to each other and that each number has a value. We learnt that we could view it as a tens column and a ones column and that a 2 digit number is any number between 10 and 99. Every day the children have been investigating whether something Captain Hook says is right or wrong. They have been fantastic Maths detectives and practiced their problem solving skills.

On Monday he said that "if you double a number between 5 and 10 you will always get a 2 digit number". We investigated this with our partners choosing which equipment was best for the investigation. When we came back to the carpet and discussed this we realised that we had evidence to prove Captain Hook right.

However, today Captain Hook got a bit mixed up. He said "if you find one less than a 2 digit number the number gets bigger". We investigated in our partners and found enough evidence to prove him wrong!

## Letters and Sounds

This week we have been doing some really hard work in Letters and Sounds! We are quickly learning how complicated the great English language is as we notice the different ways letters can be so many different sounds.

We looked at sounds that we already know from Phase 2 Letters and Sounds and then applied this to our reading and writing by look at alternative ways that they can be said:

We looked at the i sound in tin, bin, grin and then the alternative sound in child, mild, behind.

We looked at the o sound in hot, spot, shock and the alternative sound in golf, so, both.

We looked at the a sound in hat, splash, band and the alternative sound in apron, angel and then the alternative sound in was and squad.

We looked at the the g sound in goat, got and pig and the alternative sound in germ and danger.

We looked at the c sound in cat, clock and coat and the alternative sound in acid, accent, ice.

We looked at the u sound in hug, but, plug and the alternative sound in unicorn and tuba.

We also learnt how to read and write the tricky words little, one, do, when, what, out!

### **Come and See**

In our topic of Meals we are now in the final week of learning about the special meal of Mass that Catholics celebrate together. We have talked about the Biblical story of The Last Supper and how Jesus shared a special meal with his friends that we now share with our friends in the parish. We learnt that Jesus told us to do this to remember his death on the cross and how much he loves us. We said the Our Father prayer and Mrs Mitchell went through each line with us, explaining it to us in a way we would understand. We say this prayer at the end of each day.

### **Learning Stories**

I will be sending out Learning Stories next weekend.

### **RARA Books - Changing books!**

Please note that RARA books will be changed on a Monday from now on. You will come into the hall at 8.45 as normal. Children will be given a mixture of books for the week. Please ensure that you are reading with your child regularly and that you are writing comments in your child's book to show that this is happening.

### **Suggested Activities:**

- Maths - What games can you play with a dice? Play Beat That! Use more than one dice. Roll the dice and put them in order to make the highest number possible. If you roll a 4 and a 6, for example, your best answer would be 64. Using 3 dice, a roll of 3, 5 and 2 should give you 532, and so on. Write down your answer, pass the dice, and challenge the next player to Beat That!
- <http://www.ictgames.com/submarinenopad2.html> A fun game for practicing adding 10 to a number. Can you beat mummy or daddy?
- Read an Oliver Jeffers book! Next week we will be looking at our Class Author Oliver Jeffers. Read your favourite Oliver Jeffers book and draw a picture of one of the characters! Which one is your favourite? <http://oliverjeffersworld.com/> Some lovely activities about Oliver Jeffers

### **Snack Money**

Snack Money this half term will be £6.00 - please send into school in an envelope labelled with your child's name asap. Thank you very much.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs Mitchell, Miss Cook ☺