



Reception Curriculum Information

Week beginning: Monday 30th January 2017

Dear Parents

In assembly this week, Mrs Harries shared the story of 'Bear's Magic Pencil' by Anthony Brown. Children considered just what can be achieved with a pencil and a little imagination! She also told the children about the artist Paul Klee and how he would 'take a line for a walk'. Some of the Reception children enjoyed trying this out for themselves.

Bird Family meetings focused on the important topic of relaxation... something we could probably all benefit from a little more of! The children talked about what relaxation is and its importance, before learning and practising some techniques.

We have had a very enjoyable week learning about Chinese New Year and making various Chinese decorations. We began our new topic by introducing the New Year celebrations, reading stories, watching videos of traditional celebrations and sharing our own knowledge. We also read the 'Chinese Zodiac Story' and the children relished finding out how the animals decided who would have which year named after them. We also found out that all of our children were either born in the year of the rabbit or the year of the dragon. In class literacy we sequenced the story of the Chinese New Year race.

In maths lessons, the children have enjoyed exploring the value of coins and using coins in their role play. We have introduced the concept of addition through Lego maths lessons.

In our literacy groups, we have been revising taught graphemes and the children have participated in a range of blending games and/or fine motor activities. It is a joy to see the children's confidence grow in both their reading and writing abilities.

In games, the children have enjoyed a variety of physical activities. You may like to ask your children to show you a range of yoga moves.

At home this weekend you may like to look at the value of each UK coin. If you are in the supermarket maybe you would like to pay at the checkout. You may like to stick the receipt in your special book.

Dates for your diary:

Wednesday 8th February:

- **Reception classes to Banham Zoo**

Please provide your child with a waterproof coat, and ensure they have a pair of jogging bottoms and trainers in school. We will enjoy a picnic lunch provided by the school. The trip timings fall within the normal school day.

- **Coffee morning and meeting for Pre Prep parents** led by Mr Bevington regarding plans to improve the Pre Prep building: 8.30am – 9.15am (Pre Prep Hall)

Thursday 9th February: Reception parents' evening in the Nursery from 5.00pm – 8.00pm. Parents will be able to book a 10-minute appointment slot using the new 'parents' booking system'. This can be accessed by clicking on the link 'view our parent information centre' on the main school website at www.townclose.com (if you have not yet logged on, your password is set to: townclose). If you have any problems, please contact Mr Shone in our IT department directly on 01603-599031 or email cshone@townclose.com. **Bookings will close at 12.30pm on the 9th February.**

Thursday 2nd March: World Book Day – children may dress as their favourite book character.

May we remind you please to collect Pre Prep from their classrooms by 4.00pm at the latest, if they are not attending After School Care. If, for any reason, you are not able to come by 4.00pm, we will sign the children into After School Care at this point.

Also, to protect our children with allergies, may we remind you please not to bring food from home into school.

We hope you have a lovely weekend with your children.

With our best wishes from Mrs Alexandre, Miss Knightly, Mrs Laing, Mrs Brown and Mrs Harries

Melanie Harries