

Reception News

16 March 2021



Dear Parents/Carers,

We are so pleased to have welcomed all our children back to school last week! The children have made a confident start and have settled back into school life extremely well. The children who were at school during lockdown have been delighted to be reunited with their friends and the classrooms have been buzzing!

Topic: The children were so excited by the arrival of a mystery egg in each of our classrooms on Monday. They had many suggestions as to what this might be – some were unusual and some were expected – all were discussed! We enjoyed a lively discussion and did some research on the internet to help us find out whether unicorns, snakes, tigers, chicks and dinosaurs actually laid eggs. We are very much looking forward to our dinosaur workshop!

Vocabulary: This topic offers a superb opportunity to extend the children's vocabulary. Please do not be afraid to use scientific words, look at dinosaur information books and use the internet to explore and follow your child's interests. We have some children who are already experts on this topic and it is lovely to hear them sharing information and facts with the class and with friends too.

Sound books: The children are now enjoying learning how to form the letters in our '*special St Dunstan's writing*' at school. They will be bringing their sound books home each Thursday. Please guide your child to form each letter correctly by initially tracing over the green letters in the book and then writing a few letters themselves. Please remember that each letter starts at the bottom and is completed in one motion. Try to have fun with this so that it doesn't become a chore and please keep to **one** page per letter. Please also encourage your child to draw a picture of something or to write a word starting with that sound. Please use just **one** page per letter and use a writing pencil – no pens please.

Phonics: All new sounds have now been introduced. Please continue to support your child by revisiting all sounds regularly – especially the digraphs. This week are focussing on: **ai, ee, igh, oa, ar, oo, ur, or**. Please also practise recognising these sounds in words, saying each sound and then blending the sounds to read the word.

Number Work: This half term we are focusing on problem solving; addition, subtraction, sharing doubling and halving. Last week our focus was on sharing and doubling. Please continue to practise counting in 2s, 5s and 10s at home as we are working on this in class too.

Parents Voice: Many thanks for your continued support in contributing to your child's Learning Journey and especially for all the parent postcards you are sending on Evidence Me. A special 'thank you' to the parents who supported their child's learning at home during 'lockdown'. Your efforts have made real difference to your child's progress!

Birthdays: May we take this opportunity to remind you that we are a health promoting school and therefore would appreciate a contribution of an appropriate class book or game when it's your child's birthday rather than sweets and chocolates.

Many thanks for your continued support.

The Reception Team