

Dear Parents,

What we have been up to ...

All the children in Class Reception have made a wonderful job of getting to know all the new routines now that they are in school full time! They have particularly enjoyed lunchtime and have demonstrated how independent they are by following all of the instructions and eating up all their delicious food!

This week, we have been thinking about feelings. On Tuesday, we read the story of 'The Colour Monster' where the Colour Monster has got all of his colours mixed up. With the help of his friend, he sorts out his colours and in doing so, sorts out his feelings, as each colour is attached to an emotion. The children then helped to create their own feelings colour jars in our reflection area of our classroom.

On Thursday, everyone enjoyed taking part in a special lesson all about Queen Elizabeth II with Mrs Ashworth. The children listened to Mrs Ashworth read a special book all about the things that Queen Elizabeth achieved during her life. They then set to work thinking about what they remembered and liked about Queen Elizabeth. They all did a super job.

This week, the children have also taken part in their first phonics sessions. They have learnt the letter names and letter sounds for 's', 'a' and 't'. They have played lots of fun games in order to remember these letters and use them in our learning. The children have also taken part in their first 'Mega Mathematics' sessions. Our focus for the week was number one. We learnt all about 'One's Wonderful World' and help create a lovely home for 'Number One' in our Mega Mathematics Zone.

The Lot Family

During the first two weeks in school, the children worked hard to design and draw their own monsters for our 'Lot Family' display. The Lot Family are a family of monsters that help to encourage the children in Class Reception to develop their 'Characteristics of Effective Learning'. The Lot Family members for this year are as follows: Thinkalot (who thinks a lot); Tryalot (who tries a lot); Linkalot (who links a lot); Pretendalot (who pretends a lot); Explorealot (who explores a lot); Pridealot (who is proud a lot); Kindalot (who is kind a lot), Listenalot (who listens a lot) and Createalot (who makes wonderful creations a lot). We will be creating a lovely display with our new monsters over the course of the next few weeks. To encourage the children to demonstrate these important characteristics in school, we will also start to give out stickers. If your child comes home with an 'Ask Me About' sticker, this is because they have demonstrated one of our 'Lot family' characteristics.

Star of the Day

We have recently started to hand out 'Star of the Day' cards in class. If your child brings a special 'Star of the Day' card home with them, they will have been presented with it for super work, or behaviour, that day. Well done to all our 'Star of the Day' winners for this week.

Reading Books and Brilliant Books

Reading books will be changed on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Please indicate in your child's reading record when you have listened to them read. The reading book will not be changed if there is no comment. For the next week, your child will continue to bring home books with no words. Please continue to support your child in telling the story based on the pictures. Next Friday, (2nd October) your child will bring home their first book with the words made from the sounds that they have been learning during their phonics sessions.

Today, your child will have brought home a new letter rhyme sheet. Please encourage your child to identify letters 's', 'a' and 't' on the sheet and then say the rhymes together. They might also like to find the letters in their own name using the new sheet.

Homework

In order to make our home corner feel more like home, we would like to display some family photographs. Please send any photos in an envelope, clearly labelled with your child's name. Please specify on the envelope if you would like the original photograph returning.

Next week, we will be thinking about autumn and change. For homework, I would like the children to try and find some autumn 'treasure' for our autumn table. The treasure could be some leaves that are different colours and shapes, or some conkers and conker shells. The children will be able to share their findings during Chatter Time next week. I can't wait to see what they find!

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Hope

