



Friday 9th November, 2018

Dear Parents,

This week all the children have felt a great sense of achievement with their reading and writing. They have all been busy writing lists of spooky things. For many children they will have written their first word using the letter sounds we have learnt so far. We are all very proud! If you would like to see their spooky words then chat to your class teacher. We know that you will be very proud too.

Thank you to all the parents who were able to attend our parent workshop on Thursday. We know how important support at home is in providing children with the best opportunities. It enables them to regularly put into practise what they are learning at school, and demonstrates to them how much their education is valued. We know that successful home-school partnership rely on a consistency of approach particularly in Early Years teaching phonics. If you were unable to join us then please speak to your class teacher and we will try to arrange another session, and ensure you have the handouts.

Area	What we have learnt	Ideas to support at home
Topic	<p>We have been learning about Bonfire Night and Diwali. We have made links between celebrating with fireworks and noted differences such as Diwali decorations. Children enjoyed sharing their own experiences from toasting marshmallows to hearing the loud bangs.</p> <p>We have also discussed Remembrance Sunday and made poppies to honour the brave people and animals who have helped keep us safe.</p>	<p>Continue to talk with your child about the celebrations that you enjoy. Next week we will talk about music and dance in celebrations and focus on weddings around the world. If you have been to a wedding talk about it with your child.</p> <p>Have your own spontaneous celebration at home. Celebrate a sunny day, your child's fantastic reading. There is always something to celebrate!</p>
Phonics	<p>This week we learnt the letter sounds: i as in ink; n as in nose; m as in man ; and d as in dog.</p> <p>Now that we have learnt eight letter sounds (s/a/t/p/i/n/m/d) there are lots of words for us to read and write.</p>	<p>Cut out the letter cards on the next page and make different words with them. Encourage your child to sound out each letter and then blend (put) them together to make the word. Remember to also use the letter sounds from last week too. At this stage stick to 3 letter words – dig, Dad, pin, map etc. If you child is confident with hearing and segmenting the sounds see if they can blend them or 'put them back together' This is a tricky skill to learn and takes time. For example: p/a/t is pat. Start off by encouraging your child to blend the initial sound onto the rest of the word – p/at.</p>

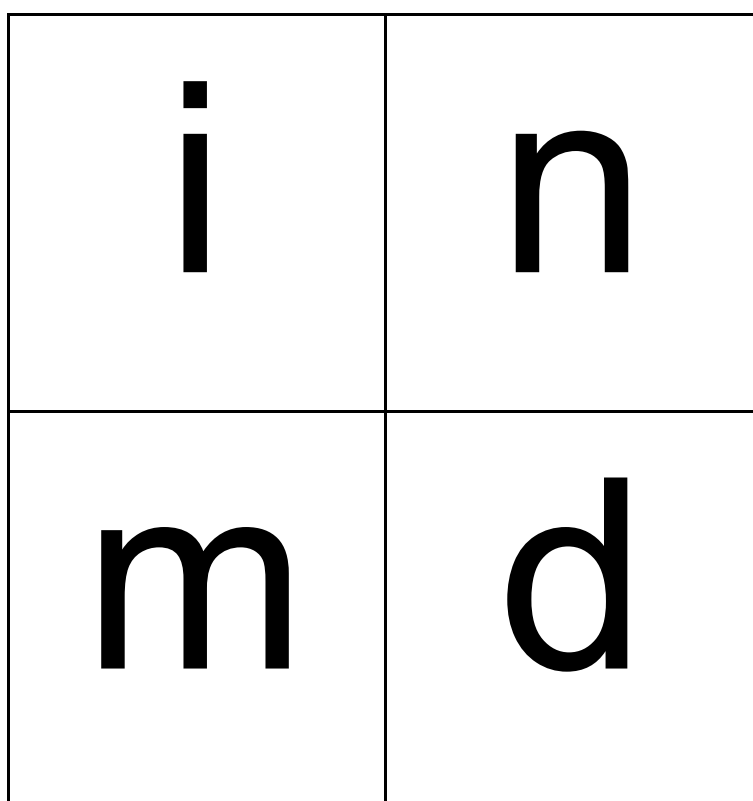
Literacy	This week our text has been 'Room on the Broom'. We have enjoyed retelling the story and coming up with our own spell. Children have used magnetic letters and pencils to write out a list of spooky words – cat, rat, bat, hat, web and frog!	Encourage your child to retell the story of 'Room on the Broom' If you would like to borrow a copy of the text to share at home with your child then speak to your class teacher. Involve your child in writing lists – perhaps for a spell, or the more mundane shopping list!
Mathematics	We have been learning about 3D shapes this week; in particular cone, cube, cuboid, sphere, cylinder and triangular prism. We have talked about how a 3D shape is different to a 2D shape –'It's not flat it's fat!' We have also explored different features of each shape – can it roll, slide or stack.	Have a 3D shape hunt at home – how many things can you find that are cube shaped (dice, sugar cubes...)? Show a child an object and ask them what 3D shape it is, for example a cereal box is cuboid and a football is a sphere.

Reading

Please help your child to remember to bring their book bags every day and especially on their book day so we can change books. **If your child has not got their book bag then we are unable to complete the Guided Reading activity.** Please remember to write your comment in the Reading Record Book each week. You might comment on your child's book handling skills, ability to tell a story using the pictures or being able to sound out and blend sounds, or simply let us know which story your child enjoyed the most and why.

Celebrations

Please send in any pictures you have of your family celebrating so we can add them to our celebration display. It could be a birthday party, a family wedding or an Eid celebration. The children really enjoy talking about the photos they bring in.



Thank you!

From the Early Years team – Miss Catchpool, Ms Del Corso, Miss Dil-Afruz, Mrs Kamanyire, Mrs McInerney, Mrs Ruiz