St Mark's CE Primary School
Reception Newsletter
Autumn 2



This half term, our Magic Storybox adventures will be based around the text "The Owl who was afraid of the dark" by Jill Tomlinson. As part of our topic we will be looking at how the seasons change and why darkness is important to some animals. We will also be thinking about what it is like in dark places like space. We hope your children are as excited as we are about this topic!



ENGLISH

Your children have been taking part in daily phonics sessions using the Read, Write Inc. programme. Just before half term, they were all assessed and have been regrouped to ensure that they are in the most appropriate group. You can support your child by practising their reading book / sounds / word cards at home every night and checking Class Dojo for any phonics videos that you can watch with your child at home.

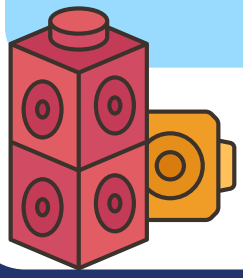
We have also started our Kinetic Letters sessions. These help to develop children's pencil grip and ensure they are forming letters correctly. Please try and ensure that your child is holding their pencils correctly when they are writing at home. We will put some photos of correct pencil grip on Class Dojo to help with this.

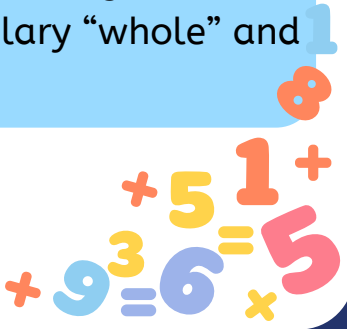


MATHS

This year, we are following the Mastering Number programme. So far, we have been working on subitising (being able to recognise small amounts of objects without counting them) and have met the Number blocks characters for numbers 1-4.

This half term, we will be focusing on being able to count groups of objects and say how many there are. We will also be focusing heavily on finding different ways to make numbers to 5. Children will be using the vocabulary "whole" and "part" to describe them.





READING

Please make sure you are listening to your child read every day. Children who read 5 times per week will be given a reading treat on a Friday. There is a reading workshop for parents on Thursday 5th November.





Please check ClassDojo regularly for news, events, reminders and information. Turn on your app notifications so you don't miss out!



OUTDOOR LEARNING



The children in Reception should be outside as often as possible during their day at school so it is really important that they have suitable clothing to enable them to do this.

Please make sure your child has a warm coat in school everyday - even if they say they don't want to bring their coat with them!

We would also be very grateful if you could send in a pair of wellies / boots that can be kept in school so that they can change their shoes when it is wet / snowy outside.



PE

PE will continue to be on a Friday afternoon, so please send children into school in their PE kit on Fridays. It is really important that all earrings and jewellery are removed on Fridays. Unfortunately, if children can not remove their earrings, they will not be able to join in with the PE lesson.



