

Foundation

Welcome back! We hope you had a restful half term break. We have enjoyed hearing about the exciting things you have been up to! The children have settled back smoothly into the school routine.

The children thoroughly enjoyed learning about the gunpowder plot and Guy Fawkes this week and have made their own paper fireworks. Chalk and black paper proved to be a firm favourite as was the use of glitter when creating a large scale firework display.

We have now introduced the concept of 'tricky words': these will be practised in school and the children will begin to learn how to read them. If you would like to practise at home the first set of words is: *I, to, the*. The children will bring home a 'tricky word' book in the New Year where the focus will be upon spelling these words as well as recognising them by sight.

This week in Maths we have been practising the vocabulary involved in adding and subtracting by playing the game Snakes and Ladders. For Maths homework this week, we would like your child to make a firework picture or sculpture. They can develop mathematical language to describe the shapes they have used by using everyday language such as curved, pointy, straight, wiggly then progressing to using the mathematical names of the shapes such as circle, square, cube, and sphere. They can also use positional language such as above, below, beside, on top of, underneath, left, right, in front, behind. Work can be planned and evaluated with your child using questions like:

- Where are you going to put it?
- Why do you want it to go here?
- What will happen if you take away that shape?
- What can you see in the picture? How is it similar to/different from ...?

We would love to see their work and hear about language used via the parent postcards.

From next week, we will be sending home a reading activity (reading book or word box) on Mondays and Fridays. Please continue to write a comment in their red reading diaries to show your child has read. Please send in their reading diaries and books for the next reading homework day.

We would also like to allow the children to further develop their independence. To support them with this, please encourage your child to carry their book bag in to Southfield and then into the classrooms where they can take out any books/work that need to be returned.

Just to remind you about Games kit: All 3 Foundation classes must have their Games kit in their bag and in school every Tuesday. The children will then come home on Tuesdays wearing their Games kit, leaving their school uniform in their Games bag on their hooks if they are in FCB (Mrs Bates' class) or FCH (Miss Hendry's class). Those children then need to come to school wearing their Games kit on Wednesdays. Children in FVH (Mrs Harmsworth's class) will come home on Tuesdays wearing their Games kit with their school uniform in their PE bags and then they will come to school on Wednesdays wearing school uniform with their Games kit in their bags ready to change into at school.

We hope that you enjoy the school fireworks evening if you are attending.

Best Wishes
The Foundation Team