

Foundation

The children have worked extremely hard this week to remember many new routines. All classes have enjoyed a trip to the library where each child selected two library books; these books can be shared at home and should be returned to class next week in the yellow library bag.

The children have also attended their first Pre Prep assembly today in Ashburton Hall with the Year 1 and 2 classes. They sat and listened really well!

A highlight of this week had to be balance bikes where FCB and half of FCH enjoyed chasing each other round the tennis courts on their bikes. The children will enjoy 4 more sessions. Photos can be seen on the VLE. FLW and the other half of FCH will have to wait until after half-term for their course.

We hope that you have all been able to locate your child's reading book and comment book. Please ensure you write a brief comment about what your child has read. At the start of the school year, most of the children will be bringing home discussion books (books with no words). Below are a few tips for sharing wordless picture books with your child:

- There is no right way to read a wordless book. We love how each child creates their own story (or stories!) from the same pictures.
- Spend time looking at the cover and talking about the book's title. Based on those two things, make a few predictions about the story.
- Play 'I see...do you see?': Go through the book and point out a few details, saying (for example), 'I see a bird. Do you see a bird?' If pupils feel more confident during the exercise, they can take over the 'I see' part of the sentence.
- Take a 'picture walk' through the pages of the book. Look carefully at the expressions on characters' faces, the setting and the use of colour. Discuss what you can see, but don't worry too much about telling a story yet. Just enjoy the pictures and get a sense of what the book is about.
- Go back through the book a second time and get ready for some great storytelling! Consider going first and acting as a model for your child. Have characters use different voices, add sound effects and use interesting words in your version of the book.
- Encourage your child to 'read' you the book with their story. Help your child expand sentences or thoughts by encouraging the adding of information from the illustrations' details. One way to encourage more details is by asking 'W' questions: Who? Where? When? Why? What?
- Finish your wordless book sharing by asking a few simple questions: What pictures helped you tell the story? What was your favourite part of your story? Have you had an experience like the one in your story?

Thank you for providing family pictures. These have been proudly shared in the classroom and have supported the children during class discussions.

This week in Maths, we have been singing lots of counting songs as well as practising counting objects using 1:1 correspondence (matching correct number name to object). For homework we would like you to continue this learning by singing some counting rhymes with your child; examples include, Ten green bottles, Ten in a bed. Singing number songs helps your child to use number words and the language related to counting.

You might like to:

- encourage your child to show on fingers how many there are now.
- your child could make a drawing or a mark to show how many are left.
- use the language of subtraction/addition by saying how many are left.

If you sing rhymes in other languages used at home we would love you to share them with us!

A polite reminder that from Monday 19th September normal school hours are in place; drop off is from 8.15am, with registration at 8.30am. Collection from Southfield playground is at 3.25pm.

Next Friday is our Jeans for Genes day when children can wear jeans or a denim skirt with their normal school polo shirt and jumper, socks and shoes in return for bringing £1 in for the charity. The SFPA hope to see many of you at the Scavenger Hunt which will be held on Saturday 22nd September from 10am.

Best Wishes
The Foundation Team