

# Weekly Newsletter

W.B. 5.1.26

This week:

As part of **English** this week the children have started their second cycle of story writing. Our story writing this half term is based on the short Pixar film 'For the birds' which focuses on bullying. The children discussed the main character and setting in the story as well as the story language used to set the scene. We then acted out the story and did some hot-seating where we thought about what it must have felt like to be Harry (our main character - the bigger bird). This deepened the children's understanding of the story and the purpose!

Can you ask your child to act out the 'For the birds' story to you?



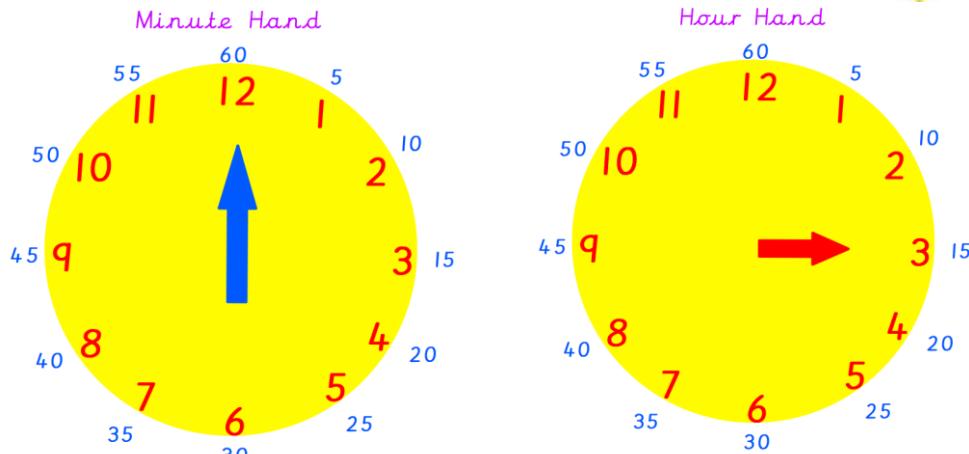
In **Maths** this week the children have continued their work around space, shape and measure. The children have started looking at time. The children have been working on both analogue clocks and digital clocks, looking carefully at the minute hand and the hour hand to tell the time. The children have been measuring the time this week looking at o'clock, half past, quarter to and quarter past on both clocks. The children have loved this and have done so well!

Can your child tell the time at home?

Can they tell you what the time will be an hour later?

Can they tell you what the time will be half an hour later?

Can they identify the hour hand and the minute hand on the clock?



The minute hand is longer than the hour hand.

The children's topic this half term is 'Rio Da Vida'. As part of topic lessons, children have continued their geography learning about the continents and countries within them. This week, the children have been learning about the United Kingdom (UK) and the four countries within it. They had to name and locate England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland and colour them in the correct colour using a map of the UK. They then had to answer some questions about the four countries such as 'which is the biggest country in the UK?' and 'which country do we live in?'. After that, we learnt about some key features of England including The River Thames, Scafell Pike, St Michael's Mount and Sheffield. We had to locate these features on our own blank map of England and then name them on our own key. Finally, we compared two places in England; Fox Valley and St Michael's Mount by looking at key similarities and differences including weather, population and location.



Can your child tell you which continent the UK is in?  
Can your child tell you which country is to the north of England?

#### Attendance for KS1:

Class 7 - 94.3%  
Class 8 - 93.3%  
Class 9 - 89%

#### Reminders:

##### PE

Class 7 PE day is Thursday.  
Class 8 PE day is Thursday.  
Class 9 PE day is Thursday.

Children must have the following in their PE bag: t-shirt, shorts, tracksuit bottoms, jacket, pumps or trainers and earrings removed or tapped on their PE day (this cannot be done by a member of staff).

Their kit must stay in school for the week in the event that the PE day needs to change and / or a child has an accident so that we can change them into their own clothing so that they feel comfortable.

Class 8 and class 9 Year 2s will be swimming every Thursday from Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> November until the Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January.

#### Homework

Homework will mainly be handed out on a Tuesday. On the odd occasion it may be on a different day due to timetable changes. Please return homework on a Monday. Handing it on a Monday gives you the opportunity before the weekend to ask the teacher any questions so that you are clear of how to support your child if unsure. There is a tray in each class where the homework needs to be returned.

Please ask the teacher where this tray is if unsure.

#### Spellings

Spellings are handed out in phonics lessons every Thursday and your child will be tested on these spellings the following Thursday. Children will receive a list of spellings to practise each week. In addition to the spellings, children will be tested on a sentence containing the words. However, the sentence will not be sent home. This is to see if they can apply the spelling currently within their writing. Can you get your child to practise applying the words by creating their very own sentences?

#### Reading Diaries

Children in KS1 have all been provided with a Home Reading Diary. Please fill this in daily based on your child reading a couple of pages of a book or a whole book. Please return the Reading Diary to school each day and leave it in the designated classroom tray. There are books situated in the classroom for your child to take home when they have finished the book they are reading. Reading is extremely important to your child's development so we really encourage your child to read a book or pages of a book daily. If you are unsure of your child's reading book colour then please ask your teacher.

#### Online Safety

The below has been taken from GOV.UK and is guidance based on "Support for parents and carers to keep children safe online". While there are huge benefits to being online to stay connected to family and friends, the government recognises many parents feel concerned about the activities and content their children are accessing. This guidance outlines resources to help keep children safe from different risks online and where to go to get support and advice.

Keep your child safe online

It is important to have regular conversations about staying safe online and to encourage children to speak to you if they come across something worrying online.

Talk to your child about the importance of creating a safe online environment, including keeping any log-in details and passwords safe.

The below resource is designed to support you to talk to your child about a range of online safety issues, set up home filtering in a child-friendly way and set up age-appropriate parental controls on digital devices:

Inclusive Digital Safety Hub and Online Safety Hub, created by South West Grid for Learning in partnership with Internet Matters - support and tailored advice for young people with additional learning needs and their parents or carers  
<https://www.internetmatters.org/inclusive-digital-safety/> AND <https://www.internetmatters.org/connecting-safely-online/>

Thank you  
Miss Aldam, Miss Howes & Miss Payne