



Friday 7th November

The children have come back to school very settled after their half term break. They seem well rested and ready for everything we will be doing over the next half term. This will be a very busy half term as we get closer to Christmas, with lots going on within our school days.

This week we have started our new "Heroes" theme. We have spent this week thinking about real life heroes who work within the emergency services. A big thank you for sending in pictures of family members who work in these areas - there is still plenty of time to send in pictures of family members who work across the emergency services if you haven't had a chance to already! Next week, We will continue to think about real heroes, as well as discussing poppies and remembrance day.



Phonics

This week we have introduced the digraphs ff, ll and ss as well as j. We have discussed how these are usually found at the end of words. We have also increased our focus on "tricky words". These are words that don't follow normal phonics rules. So far we have introduced tricky words **the, I, is and as**. We teach the children to recognise these words by sight so please feel free to plaster your walls with these words around the house so the children can start to recognise them!



Reading

The children are making super progress with their segmenting and blending. When we feel your child is ready for scheme books, we will send one home in their bookbags. Some children have been given their first book this week. While the words will remain simple and repetitive, you can really help build good reading skills by asking children to find items in the pictures on the pages after they have decoded their word. It is especially good if you can ask a question that links to the word they have read. For example: if the word they have read is 'sit' - see if they can point to someone in the picture who is sitting. This will test if they have understood the word they have read. Keep working with the blending packs - they are having a really positive impact!

Mathematics

We have been rounding off our exploration of the numbers 1 – 5 this week. It's very important for children to not just be able to chant the numbers in order but recognize the amounts in different contexts and learn how to make the totals by combining numbers together. From next week we will begin exploring the numbers 6, 7 and 8!

Stay and Play Session

We would like to invite you into our classrooms for our first stay and play of the year. This first session will have a phonics theme where you will have a chance to see how we deliver phonics in class as well as spend some time with your child exploring lots of different phonics related activities. **The session will take place on Thursday 20th November at 2:45** - the session will finish at the end of the day ready for normal pickup time. If you are able to attend, please gather by the main school reception at 2:45. As the session finishes, we will ask you to wait outside in our outdoor classroom, as normal, while we get the children ready to go home. One adult only per child please due to overcrowding! Younger siblings are welcome but pushchairs need to be left outside the classrooms.

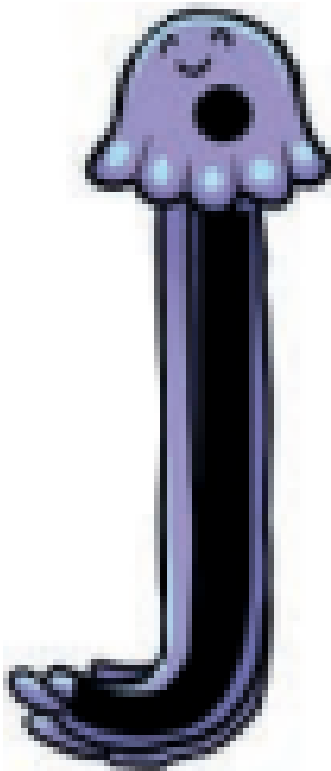
The children are already busy learning the first songs of our Nativity production. Next week, we will send home information about your child's role in our production along with costume suggestions.

I

the

is

as



Down the jellyfish;
dot on its head