



Friday 9th January

We hope that you all had a lovely Christmas break and very happy New Year. The children have arrived back in school with plenty to talk about; they have clearly all had a wonderful time. We have been talking about Bromsgrove this week. A lot of children have some understanding of the area that they live in, we have talked a lot about the things that they like to do in Bromsgrove: swimming and Sanders Park are very popular with the children.

Next week we will discuss our country, we will talk about being British and what this means. We will talk about some British customs and about the different nations that make up Great Britain. **If you have photos of adventures you may have had as a family around Great Britain then we would love to share them with the children. Please send them to the class emails and please also explain in your email where each picture you send is from.**



## Phonics

We have begun our new term by exploring the first phase-3 sounds. These are digraphs and trigraphs that represent the long vowel sounds: ai, and ee. These sounds are tricky to spot within words but will really help the children as they move towards being independent readers and writers. Each phase 3 sound has a memorable rhyme to help the children recall the sound, these are attached.



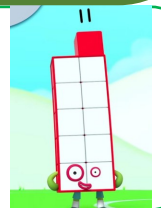
sheep in a jeep

## Reading

When you share your child's reading book together please spend time together looking at and talking about the front cover and the title page. They provide so many clues about what the book is about and help in the vital skills of prediction and comprehension. Some children's books will begin to introduce longer words, often by putting an 's' at the end of a 3-letter word. If this is too much for your child to segment and blend in one go, cover the 's' with a finger and segment the root word first before adding s to help with cognitive overload.

## Mathematics

This week in Maths, we have begun exploring numbers larger than 10. We always contextualise each larger number as being made up of 10 and a friend.



## Cold weather clothing

As the colder weather looks like it will be sticking around with us a bit longer, we ask that children come to school each day with at least a hat and gloves as all children will be accessing outdoors every day so long as it is not raining. The children love interacting with the ice and snow while at school. If children have wool / fabric gloves, these can get wet and cold very quickly. **A pair of waterproof mittens** would be the perfect choice for school as they will keep the children's hands warm and dry as well as being much easier for the children to put on and take off independently.

In order to deepen the children's individual knowledge of themselves and their immediate environment it would be helpful if you could discuss a few things with your child over the weekend. Please could you discuss your address i.e. street and house number, where your child was born, if you were born somewhere different, and where family members that you may visit live for example, Grandma, might live in Cheltenham, which is a town that is bigger than Bromsgrove and you get there by driving down the motorway? You might also enjoy finding your house or recreating your journey to school on Google Earth.

ai



tail in the rain

Open your  
mouth wide  
and say  
**ai ai ai**

ee



sheep in a jeep

Smile with  
your lips  
apart and say  
**ee ee ee**