



Primary One

We would like to update you with some of the learning experiences your children have been engaging with in recent weeks.

Primary One is always a very exciting stage to work in as the children are open to learning about many new things either through their own play, teacher initiated or teacher led. These last few weeks have been no exception and it has been great to see all of your children starting their phonics programme, reading their first books and using their knowledge of number throughout the curriculum.

Literacy

Reading



The children have been very busy learning new initial sounds through rhymes, actions, play, drawing and letter formation. As they learn more sounds, they are beginning to blend these together to read short words. Through home learning, we will update you on the new sounds your child has learned each week so that you can reinforce them at home. Another exciting aspect of reading that we have introduced recently is sight words. These are words that will become easier to read the more your child becomes familiar with them. We have been playing lots of games at school, including matching words and fly swat which is a real favourite!

Another main focus is reading for enjoyment which inspires the children to talk about stories and to write their own. We have read many good books this term but some of our favourites have been 'Aaarrgghh Spider' by Lydia Franks, 'You Choose' by Pippa Goodhart and Nick Sharratt and 'The Hairy Maclary and Friends' series. You can ask your child their favourite character from the series!

Writing



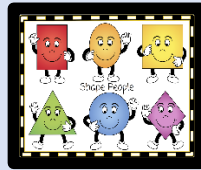
Reading and writing skills are linked together. As the children learn the single sounds and sight words they are encouraged to explore writing formation through making, tracing and writing. We have also been exploring different types of writing such as personal, imaginative and writing for different purposes. We have seen fantastic examples of writing such as potions for Hallowe'en, letters to the manager of our garden centre and sequencing stories.

Numeracy and Mathematics



Numeracy

The children have been very busy counting, adding, recognising and writing numbers. We are creating number stories for different amounts, finding missing numbers in sequences, counting forwards and backwards and writing numbers. The children use various concrete and pictorial materials such as loose parts, ten frames, number lines, number fans and cubes to help them when they are counting.



Mathematics

As well as number we have been looking at 2D shapes and 3D objects, symmetry and patterns. The children had great fun using natural materials to create their own patterns outside. They also went on a shape hunt around the school- the pyramid was the hardest shape to find!

Health and Wellbeing

Through different stories, such as 'The Worry Monster' and 'Worrysaurus', children have been encouraged to talk about anything that they feel anxious about and who they can talk to if they have any such worries. We have also shown them techniques to feel calm and relaxed. These are on the classroom wall as a constant reference point.

The children have also been learning the importance of keeping safe by knowing who can give medicine safely, what a medicine is and why this is important. This links to numeracy and literacy skills through the use of labels, signs and playing in the role play corner.

Creative Activities

If you have not yet done so, please send an old shirt/ overall for your child to use when painting and other messy play. This should be kept in school, clearly labelled with their name.

Although we can't have a physical 'Learn with us Afternoon' we hope you enjoyed reading about the learning your children have engaged with over recent weeks. We are very pleased with the progress they are making and we are sure they will continue to thrive.

Mr Johnston



and Ms Livingstone

