



Dear Parents/Carers,

Half term seems like a distant memory already and Easter is approaching too quickly! We have been so busy this term and our days have been filled with lots of fun and exciting learning.

English

So far this term we have retold the story of 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears' where our cheeky little book eating monsters came in and twisted the story. We have learnt how to write a diary entry and have applied our skills by writing a diary entry from the point of view of a character from 'Little Red Riding Hood'. One Monday we were shocked to discover that something had come into our classroom and made a right old mess! There were muddy footprints everywhere and bits of grey fur. We became detectives and analysed the footprints and fur and discovered it had been the wolf!



We then set about learning how to write a letter as we wanted to persuade the wolf to change his ways and make good choices. The children pulled all their learning together, referring back to the choices the wolf had made in 'Little Red Riding Hood', 'The Three Little Pigs' and other wolf tales they knew.

This half term we are focusing on 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. The children have been working in pairs to plan their own twisted version of the tale by including their monsters. The children have then made their book eating monsters out of salt dough and have worked in pairs to create backdrops using a shoebox. They are going to be acting out their twisted story using their models and taking photos of each scene. They will then be learning to upload the photos and turn them into a film. Once the films are completed the children will learn the features of a script and to write a script to go with their film.

In group reads we have been looking at two different versions of 'Jack and the Beanstalk' called 'Jim and the Beanstalk' and 'Jack and the Baked Beanstalk'. The children have been comparing the texts to the original version.



Check out <https://www.roythezebra.com/> for some lovely reading and grammar games to support your child's learning at home.

Maths

Over the past few weeks we have been looking at fractions of number and fraction of shape. The children have been learning how to identify and find $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{2}{3}$, $\frac{2}{4}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$. We then moved onto identifying and describing 2D and 3D shapes. The children learnt names of 3D shapes and the terms needed to describe their properties (vertices, edges, faces). After learning about shape, we looked at the symmetry of regular and irregular shapes and practised finding lines of symmetry by folding different shapes. Below is a link to practise recognising symmetry of different shapes:

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/symmetry/symmetry-sorting>

The children explored repeating patterns and challenged their friends to complete different patterns using a variety of resources.

This week we have been looking at data handling where the children have been learning how to read and interpret different types of graphs from pictograms to block graphs. If you would like to practise this further at home here are a couple of links you may wish to use.

https://mathsframe.co.uk/en/resources/resource/51/block_charts

<http://flash.topmarks.co.uk/4771>

Next week we are going to be looking at length using mm, cm and m. The children will be problem solving involving length by adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing. Why not get your child to measure different items from around the house to get them starting to think about measure. Or have a look at the link below.

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/measuring-in-cm>

Topic

We are very excited because some caterpillars have arrived in the classroom! When we were learning about life cycles, the children had lots of questions and many of them were about how caterpillars turn into butterflies and how long it can take. So we decided to observe some caterpillars and record our findings in a butterfly diary in the hope that we can answer some of the questions posed. We can't wait to see them hatch!

Males and Storytales



Calling all Dads, Stepdads, Uncles, older brothers, Grandpas, Male Cousins!

There is a noticeable difference between the number of male teachers and female teachers we have in primary education and the majority of parent helpers who come into school are women.

We need to raise the profile of men in our children's education to inspire our children - especially boys!

It is important that children see men reading books, being caring and compassionate and showing just as much emotion as women. Research shows that when dads and other male figures are engaged in children's education, a child's focus and achievement improves.

We would like to invite a male family member to come into school and spend some time reading with your child on Monday 1st April at 8.30am. We will use this time to play a game, read a story, play with puppets and engage in a reading style activity. It will last around 20 minutes. We would like as many men in as we can - ideally a male family member for every child. If you don't have a man that can come please don't worry as we will add children to groups and we also have 2 male members of staff who will be joining us!

The Great Maidenbower Spring Clean

Just a reminder that on Saturday 23rd March we are hosting a community litter pick along with the Maidenbower Infant and Junior schools to help make Maidenbower green again! As an eco school we teach the children to be respectful about the world in which they live and they learn how the small things they can do on a daily basis can make a huge impact. Following last year's successful litter pick the children wanted to get the whole community involved. We are so proud of them for wanting to make a difference and we hope that you will join us in making this a success!

IMPORTANT DATES!!

- **NEW DATES FOR THE DIARY:**

- ✓ Music performance for parents - Thursday 21st March at 11am.

- ✓ Year 2 SATs meeting for parents on Tuesday 26th March at 9am.

- ✓ Males and Storytales - Monday 1st April at 8.30am.

Many thanks for your continued support.
The Year Two Team

Men



WE NEED YOU!