

Sapphire Class Newsletter - week ending 10th November 2017

The children have been doing some super work in phonics this week. We have revisited the letters 'm', 'a', and 's'. We have been revising the sounds (phonemes) and practising writing each letter (grapheme). We have been looking at words and short sentences beginning with these initial sounds. It has been super to notice how the children are using their developing phonic knowledge across different areas of the curriculum.

We have started the book 'Handa's Surprise' as part of the Power of Reading scheme being introduced in the school. Some children were familiar with the story and for others it was new. Alongside our usual literacy work, this book will be a particular focus and we will be engaging in all sorts of activities linked with the story. Already this week, we have been to the Woodland Area to collect resources to help with Mathematics and Drama, we have peeled tangerines and discussed what the segments look like and we have completed craft activities connected with the story. The children have been involved in discussing what existing resources we can use for this work and what resources we might make.

You can find information about Power of Reading here

<https://www.clpe.org.uk/powerofreading>

You can find an animation telling the story of Handa's Surprise here

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y1Vmf4Cwvls>

When you copy and paste a given link, please have a look at the website/page first to be sure that you are happy with its content.

In Religious Education we have started our topic which is connected with the story of the Nativity. We are aiming as soon as possible for children to have basic recall of the story and to be able to answer the following questions

- What was the name of Jesus' mother?
- Why was Jesus born in the manger, why was he not born in an inn/hotel.
- Who came to visit Jesus when he was born and what did they bring?
- How did they know where to find Jesus?

Between now and Christmas is a busy time with different events happening. Please make a note of key dates. You can find copies of Sapphire Class Newsletter and Headteacher Highlights on the website.

Sapphire Class will be taking part in the KS1 Christmas Play dressed as Snowflakes. All children will need to dress in white with silver decoration. Further details about this will be given next week.

Along with the other classes in the school, Sapphire Class now has a blog on the school website. This is now active, please look out for different posts. To start with, this week's Home Learning will be posted on the blog - go to the school website and you will see a section marked Class Blogs or alternatively find our blog at <http://www.west-kingsdown.kent.sch.uk/class-blogs/>

We hope that you have a lovely weekend.

The staff of Sapphire Class

