

Dear Families,

Another great week jam-packed with learning! Last week we started learning about the festival: Diwali (Festival of light), discussed the children's experiences of Bonfire night and started our core book: Gingerbread man. We continue to learn what numbers are made up of e.g. four is made up of 4 ones and understanding how to count accurately. Our shape work is improving as we continue to relate three to the shape of triangles and the number four to squares. Together with Mrs Salter in Nurture we learnt about the zones of regulation, relating our feelings to colour. I will attach an information sheet so you can read up about each zone so you understand what the children are talking about, for instance if they say they are in the 'red' zone this means they are angry. Please note one of the children's Early Learning Goal at the end of June is to: Show an understanding of their own feelings and those of others, and begin to regulate their behaviour accordingly. Understanding the zones of regulation really supports this goal.

### Activity of the week to try at home!

Lots of you have asked me for ideas to support learning at home so I have decided to start posting (inexpensive) ideas for you to try every week in my newsletter. Here is the first idea –really simple, just write letter sounds on a sheet and cover with rice, salt, flour, talcum powder, anything you have in the cupboard really. Invite the children to find the letters and write them down. They can either trace yours –but they should be able to write all letters known so far if you read out the little writing ditty on each letter sound sheet found in their homework pack. You can make this harder or easier for example:



Harder – write simple words for the children to find like sat, mat, bat, rat OR our new common exception words the and I (see below)

Easier – stick to a few of the letters learnt already and slowly increase in amount including letter to learn.

Have fun!!

**New Read Write Inc** sounds to learn this week: j and r

RWInc sounds already learnt: **m a s d t l p n p g o c k u b h l f**

Please support your children with this at home as much as you can. The more you do at home, the more confident they will be in school.

**Please follow both theses links to watch at home for both letter sounds j and r:**

**<https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/q7NCyD9T/rUpxc3Vf>**

**<https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/NJyEYVSJ/z79R9RAh>**

**These links will take you directly to the Ruth Miskin web page.**

**Common Exception words: *the* *I***

Children need to start learning their common exception words now! Those silly, tricky words that don't make any sense to spell. These words do not blend phonetically and make no sense for example, **they, said, you** unlike when you sound out, s-a-t. So to learn these words we just need to play games and explain we need to learn them by 'looking' at them and remembering them. Obviously the first sound is helpful however

that's just about it! So, the more you help at home the sooner they will be reading! A massive WIN for them!

### **Homework Packs**

In order to keep on top of homework please could all learning homework packs come to school every day in children's RED book bags so I can add new letter sounds please. We will aim to add more every Friday. It has been really confusing knowing where we are up to as so few have been returned. The children who have completed homework are so proud of their work!

#### **Read Write Ink Workshop with Me: *Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov 2.15-3.00pm***

Everyone welcome! Lots of you have asked how you can support your children at home with learning to read and write. This workshop will include:

- How to pronounce the sounds
- What sounds the children learn first including set 2 sounds
- Ideas and activities to do at home with your children
- How to support your child with writing
- Breakdown of glossary of terms e.g. Fred talk, Fred in your head, red words
- Tips for story times

If you are able to attend my workshop please let me know you are coming. If you are unable to and really wanted to please let me know so I can arrange a better time in the future.

As always, please get in touch if you need anything.

Thanks

***Miss Viv Horne***

***Opal Class***

