

Reception Newsletter 18th November 2021

Dear parents/carers,

No school tomorrow—INSET DAY 19th November

This week we have been:

- Learning about our class elephants! They are excited to visit everyone's homes over the course of the year.
- Children have written letters to their class elephants to tell them about themselves.
- Learning the concept of one more in maths. Children have used themselves in groups, counters and stories to learn about 'one more'.
- Learning to write simple sentences using 'finger spaces' to space out each separate word. Simple sentences such as 'A cat sat.' is a good place to start.
- Learning the sounds y,z,zz,qu in phonics. We've also learnt two new 'tricky words' - be. We call these 'tricky words' because they aren't easily sound out-able or easy to spell, so children just have to learn them by rote. It may be helpful to stick these tricky words up somewhere at home to practise :)
- Having lots of fun dressing up for Children in Need day, thank you SO much for your efforts getting children in yellow and spots and for your kind donations.

Next week we will be:

- Continuing our learning around the book 'The Everywhere Bear' by Julia Donaldson.
- Learning about Number bonds. Number bonds are really useful to know as they make problem solving in maths much easier later on. Number bonds to 5 are all of the numbers that add together to make 5 (1+4, 2+3, 5+0)
- Learning more digraphs in phonics—ch, sh, th, ng (we explain digraphs to children as two letters that go together to make one sound).
- Practising reading words with these sounds in them.

You can help at home by:

- Practising zips on winter coats :) we are more than happy to give lots of help with this at school too, but they can be super tricky to get the hang of so the more practise the better to build confidence with this skill.
- Going on a sound hunt around the house for our sounds of the week How many things can children find that start with y? how many things can they find that start with z or qu? Probably not too many! Children can also practise mark making by having a go at writing a list of the objects that they find. Don't worry if they are not spelt correctly, writing words phonetically is great at this stage!

Have a lovely weekend, Katie, Sarah and the EY team