

## Weekly Learning Letter

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

### This week in Reception:

We have had another exciting and eventful week in Reception! On Monday, Lions, Tigers and Bears all went on their first educational visit to St George's church in Forest Hill. We were very impressed with how sensibly they walked to and from the church and are grateful to all of the parent/carers volunteers who were able to support us on the day! The children really enjoyed meeting Richard, the Vicar and being shown around the church. As well as this, they got to learn about some of the traditions that Christians follow. After the trip, the children were inspired to create their own maps using photos from the day, wrote thank you letters to Richard and made collaged churches.

To celebrate Thanksgiving on Thursday, the children talked about what they are grateful to have in their lives (this was quite wide ranging... from loving parents to "LOTS OF LEGO"! ). After the carpet learning, many children chose to make a special Thanksgiving card or write a list of things they are thankful for.

### Phonics:

This week the children learnt the new sounds z, qu and ch. They also learnt the tricky words **go**, **no**, **to** and **into**. We have practised sounding out and blending words that include our new sounds such as quick, buzz, chip and chop.

Please visit the Kilmore School Website for more information about phonics and follow the link to the Little Wandle site, where you can find lots of parent information about how we teach this programme.

### Maths / Number:

This week we have been focusing on the number 7 and the children have enjoyed exploring the different ways this can be split, put back together and recorded. The children were able to show different arrangements of 7 using cubes, beads and counting bears. See if your child can tell you two numbers that can be added together to make 7?

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### Home learning ideas:

- Can your child find 7 items around the house and find different ways or arranging them? What shapes can they create using 7 items?
- Play a game of phonics bingo with your child using the sounds we have learned over the past 2 weeks. **'z, qu, ch, x, v, w and y.'**
- Can your child draw or tell you about something they saw in the church?

### Bears drop off

As the children continue to grow in confidence, we feel that this is the perfect moment to encourage them to enter the classroom completely independently each morning. Lions have started to say goodbye to their parents at the bottom of the ramp, this has been a great success, and we are eager for Bears to replicate this from next week. While your child gets used to this change, an adult from the class will be waiting at the bottom of the ramp to greet them and the other adult will be waiting in the doorway as normal. We believe that this is an important step in your child's growing independence.

### Reminders

#### An urgent request for missing books

We are running extremely low on our sets of Collins Big Cat phonics books, which are part of the Little Wandle phonics scheme. We need complete sets of matching books in order for our Reception reading groups each week. When we do not have complete sets, children inevitably end up having to read the same books more than once or books from our old scheme.

Please check your homes for any books that may not have been returned. If you are unsure of the book titles, please refer to your child's reading journal, where these will have been recorded.

We are introducing a checklist to ensure that all books are returned to us each week and, unfortunately, if books are not returned to us for two consecutive weeks, your child will not be able to borrow another book until these come back. Thank you for your understanding.

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### Forthcoming events

- The Starry Night Winter Fayre: Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November 1pm-4pm
- 1st December- Visiting music company performing to the children- letter sent to parents asking for £5 contribution please.
- Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December: Reception Christmas performance – more details TBC in next week's Newsletter

### School website

Please do [visit our website](#), you can find details of forthcoming events on the [calendar](#) (& you can subscribe to your child/ren's year group so it will auto update your calendar), as well as photos of learning activities including educational visits in the [photo gallery](#), read all about recent events and sporting achievements in the [school news](#) section and much, much more!

