



Friday 10th November

The children have come back to school very settled after their half term break. They seem well rested and ready for everything we will be doing over the next half term. This will be a very busy half term as we get closer to Christmas, with lots going on within our school days.

This week we have started our new "Heroes" theme. We have spent this week thinking about real life heroes and have been lucky enough to have already had a visit from a fire fighter. Next week, we will get the chance to meet some police officers. We will continue to think about real heroes, as well as discussing poppies and remembrance day.

We will also be exploring the Hindu festival of Diwali which, this year, falls on Sunday 12th November. We wish everyone celebrating on Sunday a very happy day. Please send in any pictures of Diwali celebrations so we can look at them together in class.



Phonics

This week we have introduced the digraphs ff, ll and ss as well as j. We have discussed how these are usually found in the middle or at the end of words. We have also increased our focus on "tricky words". These are words that don't follow normal phonics rules. So far we have introduced tricky words **the, I, is and as**. We teach the children to recognise these words by sight. So please stick them up on your fridge, or somewhere!



Reading

The children are making super progress with their reading. Many children are starting to blend independently using the sounds they have been taught. We read the book that they bring home on **Friday 3 times in school** before they bring it home so that they can read to you with confidence and expression.

Mathematics

We have been looking closely at 4-sided shapes this week; discussing properties of these shapes and what the shapes look like when they are rotated. The children have sorted lots of shapes and have been identifying these shapes in their environment.

Next week we will be thinking about time and sequencing events - putting events and

A reminder of our first **Stay and Play** session which is happening **Monday 13th November**. If you are able to attend, please wait by gated entrance to year 1 playground at **2:45pm**. After you have spent some time with your children in the classroom, we will ask you to wait outside in our outdoor classroom as normal while we get the children ready to go home. One adult only per child, please due to overcrowding! Younger siblings are welcome but pushchairs need to be left outside the classrooms.

As the weather begins to get colder you might want to think about sending in additional clothing such as gloves and hats. **Please label every single item clearly**. It is so much easier to manage gloves without losing them if they are attached to your child's coat with clips or string/ribbons. Mittens are easier for younger children to put on independently.

The children are already busy learning the first songs of our Nativity production. We have asked the children what roles they would like to have in the play and you will have a letter outlining the role your child has in our play along with costume suggestions.

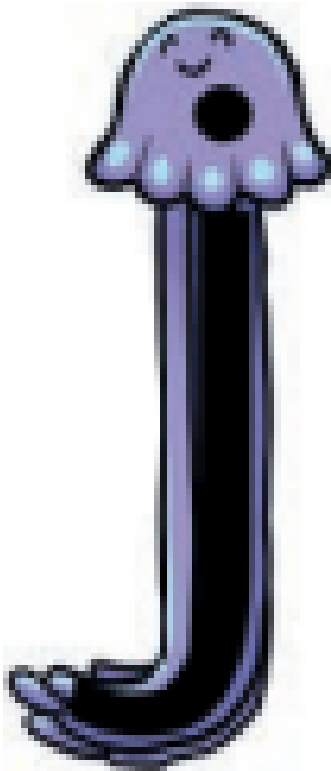
Friday 17th November is Children in Need day. This year's theme is 'Be Spotacular', so children can come to school in non-uniform wearing something spotty for a donation to the charity. During the week, the children are taking on Joe Wicks' and Pudsey's Bearpees Challenge. P.E. will still take place on Friday as normal but there is no need for children to have P.E. kits with them.

I

the

is

as



All the way down
the jellyfish; dot on
its head