Reception Newsletter – Friday 14th November 2025

Phonics – Level 2

Our focus this week are the sounds **'e', 'u' &** the digraph **'ck'**. A digraph is where there are 2 letters that make 1 sound. The children have been taught that the digraph 'ck' is usually found at the end of words. Please stick these sounds into your child's sound books. The children are becoming much better at sounding out to read 3 letter regular words. There are a number of flashcards on the class website and the games on the Phonics Play website will help.

The Parent Support Sheets & 3 letter regular word flashcards can be found on our Phonics & Reading webpage along with flashcards for each letter sound: https://www.st-annes.walsall.sch.uk/phonics-reading/.

When playing the games on https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/resources/phase/2, reading their reading books or when reading words using flashcards, please support your child where necessary. If your child cannot yet blend the letters to say the word, please model the segmenting for them EG: you do the segmenting and blending for your child and say s-a-t – sat. Then ask your child to copy you. In time the children will pick up the skill of segmenting and blending so you can just do part they find difficult.

Reading Books

Please make sure your child is sharing their reading book with you at home every day and write whenever you read it at home. Books will not be changed as regularly if you have not heard them read at home, there is no message and the children will therefore not make as much progress. It is good to get these good reading routines started in Reception so reading becomes part of their daily routine.

RE – Remembering Lost Love Ones & How we pray

Our hymn for this week was 'We Will Remember' by Mike Stanley: https://www.st-annes.walsall.sch.uk/hymns/. It links very well with our Remembrance Day unit of work.

Ask your child what they know about how to pray, what we could do or what we can say. They certainly have learned lots since September.

Understanding the World – Remembrance Day

This week our focus has been on Remembrance Day. There is a PowerPoint I used in class on our webpage: https://www.st-annes.walsall.sch.uk/powerpoints/. The children were exceptionally respectful during our silence on Tuesday and were able to remember lots of facts about why we have Remembrance Day.

FURTHER REQUEST

Thank you to those parents who have already sent in their photographs of their child. If you haven't done so, please send them in by Friday 21st November at the latest so your child can take part in the lesson. Without the photographs of themselves they will feel left out.

As part of our unit about how people grow and change over time, we would like to sequence pictures of the children at 3 stages of their lives to help understand how timelines work – baby (0-1), toddler (2-3) and now (4-5). We have the pictures for now, but need your help with pictures of the children as a baby and a toddler.

Please either:

1. **Send in 2 photographs of your child – 1 as a baby and 1 as a toddler so we can copy them and return the originals to you;**

Or

2. **Email 2 photographs of your child – 1 as a baby and 1 as a toddler to postbox@st-annes.walsall.sch.uk**

EA&D - Pable Picasso

This week and next our Famous Artist focus is Pablo Picasso. The children liked looking at some of his famous paintings, talking about which ones they liked and why. It was wonderful to hear their ideas.

Colourful Christmas Hampers

Thank you to those who have already sent in items. Their raffle tickets have already been added to the raffle box for the chance to win the purple and silver hamper.

The Colourful Christmas Hampers are a very successful and popular part of our Christmas Fayre. Every class is given 2 colours to collect items for these hampers. Reception have been asked to create a **purple & silver** hamper**.** Mrs Long is already planning how to decorate the hamper. We ask that every child send in some items that are either purple or silver or both so we can add them to the hamper. This could be chocolates/sweets/foods in purple or silver packaging, candles, smellies, toys, teddies, scarves, Christmas decorations, gift items, gloves & hats, mugs…… The list is endless and I'm sure you could come up with more ideas. For every item you send in to school, a raffle ticket will be added to the raffle box – 4 items = 4 raffle tickets.

Items need to be sent in by Monday 1st December at the latest.

General

Over the next few weeks your child will be coming home with a letter about their part in the EYFS Nativity Play and the words they will be saying. At St Anne's, Reception lead the Nativity Play to tell the story of the birth of Jesus. Every child will have a part and one sentence / short phrase to say. Please support your child in learning their words. Costumes will be provided by school. Dates are on the class webpage.

- Saturday 15th November – 6pm Family Mass where memory boxes will be blessed
- Monday 17th November – PTA AGM All parents at school are welcome to join us for the AGM, even if you are not part of the committee. Please do come along to hear what we've done through the year and plans for the year ahead.
- Thursday 20th November – Parents Evening. Please refer to Mrs Miller's communications for times
- Friday 21st November – Bottle Mufti Day. Children are invited to wear their own clothes and donate an alcoholic bottle for the Bottle Tombola at the PTA Christmas Fayre.

Mrs Turley