

Value of the Week:

This week our value is independence. It is really important that children are encouraged to ask for help if they need it, and that they feel empowered to do so. In part, this comes from having confidence that others will help and from an environment where they feel safe to admit that they can't do everything straight away – feeding into our growth mindset focus from last term.

However, once they have that confidence and ability to seek help, the next step is to try other approaches before asking for help. This is something we do as adults: if we need to do something new we firstly try to work it out ourselves, then perhaps go to a book or the internet to ask for help and then perhaps ask a friend. This is the approach we would like children to take, and so we have been reminding them of the "3 before me" rule as follows:

- brain
- book
- buddy

If these don't work, the next step is to ask the

- boss (an adult in the classroom who can help),

however if that adult is already helping someone else, we discussed the

- bounce.

This encourages children to bounce themselves on to the next question or another aspect of the task if this is possible, while waiting for the teacher to be ready to help.

This week, the children who are receiving certificates for their independence are:

Eva Woodman, Leo Drury, Riley Pugh, Ewan Sears, Heidi Moore and Ava Jeggo.

Well done on their independence!

Achiever of the week:

We also celebrate the achievers of the week in our Friday assembly. This can be for any area of learning, where children have shown particular skills, dedication, progress or achievement. This week, the children receiving these certificates are:

Sam Hopping, William Moore, Annabel Fraser, Rory Kimber, Josh Maskell and Thomas Lord.

Congratulations to them all!

Reception parents:

Our suggestions for home evidence for this week are:

- A walk around the house allowing the children to take photos of any technology they see – please send in the evidence as this will prove they use technology and are aware of it in the environment. For an extra 'Challenge' they could extend this while walking around the town or local super market (looking for cash point machines, tills and scanners).
- Find 2D and 3D shapes in the environment. Look closely at windows, doors, ornate fencing, gardens, floor tiles, food packaging etc.

Please also remember to record when children have read at home. Many children appear to have not read for a while. We need to know if children require extra 1:1 reading support if this is not

happening at home. If books have no acknowledgement/record from home, staff will give you a little more time to read them, so refraining from changing them. A simple date and initial lets us know families are supporting reading at home.
Thank you.

Attendance

...for last week was 97.5%. We seem to be remarkably consistent at the moment. Well done to everyone!

Home learning and termly overviews:

Please find attached termly overviews for each class from Year 1 to Year 4 and homework for this term for all classes. It is such a short term that we are only asking for three pieces of homework to be done, however if you wish to do more, you are of course very welcome to do so. You might like to practise the art of independence and see how much children can lead the homework – although you are still very welcome to help them!

Can you help?

Reception could do with any dolls, pushchairs, action men or garden storage that you no longer need.

Do you have any old, unwanted CDs for a craft activity on Monday?

Thank you!

Sainsbury's Vouchers:

The Sainsbury's Active Voucher Scheme has now closed. Please send any vouchers into school by 30th June, although it would be helpful to receive them as soon as possible. Thank you to everyone who has supported this scheme.

Wade Gymnastics:

Attached is a flyer for the half term courses that are run by Wade Gym at their premises near Banbury. I know many children enjoy gymnastics and this is a chance to practise for longer sessions with a good variety of equipment.

Hot off the press!

I understand that there are a few cases of chicken pox in the area at the moment and we have had a couple of cases in school. While these are not generally serious for children, it can cause problems for pregnant women and new-born babies. If you are concerned, we suggest you speak to your GP or consult <http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Chickenpox/Pages/Introduction.aspx> Please note that anti-inflammatory medication such as Ibuprofen/Calprofen etc. should not be used to treat chicken pox, and paracetamol is recommended instead.

Dates for your diary:

Drop-in session for parents and carers:

Wednesday 17th May from 2-3pm and again from 6-7pm

This is a chance to meet with myself and Mrs Healey on an informal basis, and usually involves some cakes or biscuits to sample too! I hope to see you there.

Have a good weekend! Mrs. Hughes