

# Year 2 ~ Weekly News

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2009

*Although we encourage the children to come into class on their own in the mornings we would like you to feel welcome to come in and speak to us if you have any worries, questions or concerns!*

## Literacy

This week in Literacy the children have been finding out about the characters in the Lauren Child stories. They have been thinking about what they already know about the characters and have been asking questions about what they would like to find out. The children have had great fun hot-seating this week (this is where the children pretend to be a character and answer questions). The children have also been listening to stories and using freeze frames to think about what the characters might be thinking or feeling at different points in the story. When you are reading a story at home you could try some of these activities - it really makes the children think about the characters in the story.

Next week in Literacy the children will be describing what happens at the beginning, middle and end of a story and will be working as a group to recommend a book that the class should read. They will also be thinking about how the characters in the story would react in different situations. You could discuss how the characters in the stories you read at home might react if they were in different situations. The children will also be learning how to write dialogue by using speech marks in the correct places and using a range of speech verbs (e.g. shouted, cried, yelled, whispered). See if you can identify any speech verbs when you are reading with your child.

## Maths

This week in Maths the children have been doubling and halving numbers and using these skills to solve real life word problems, e.g. if George has 6 cakes and eats half of them how many are left? You could ask your children to solve some real life problems involving halves and doubles at home. The children will also be solving number puzzles in class.

Next week in maths the children will be naming, describing and sorting 2D and 3D shapes. We will be encouraging the correct use of mathematical vocabulary in these lessons:

- 2D shapes - sides, angles, triangle, circle, quadrilateral, oblong, rectangle, square, pentagon, hexagon, octagon, regular, irregular, right angles.
- 3D shapes - faces, edges, vertices, cube, cuboid, cylinder, sphere, square based pyramid, triangular based pyramid, cone, prism.

## Topic

We have been looking at some famous artists and the statues which they have produced. The children have discussed what they like or dislike about the statues and then have created their own abstract statue.

Next week in our topic work the children will be learning about Florence Nightingale. They will find out why she is famous and will create a fact sheet using the computers.

## Science

This week in Science the children have been sorting animals according to how they are similar e.g. the animal has 4 legs or the animal lives in the water.

Next week in Science the children will be comparing the length of their hands and feet with other children in the class and with older and younger children in the school as well as adults.

## Other Information:

- Please could you make sure that your child has a water bottle in school every day.
- Big Writing will start next Friday. You should have the Talk Homework sent home today - remember we do not need the children to do any writing for this, it is purely discussion and talking at home!

*Many Thanks and Best Wishes, Miss Wright and Miss Barnett*