

Dear Parent/Carers,

Our spellings for Monday's quiz are:

schools	friends	eyes	houses
classes	churches	wishes	buses

In English this week, we have written our stories about animals which thought they were a different type of animal. Over the week, we wrote the beginning of the story, the problem, the solution and finally the ending. We edited our writing to try and include a variety of narrative features that we have been working on. These have included prepositional phrases, similes, time words and using the past progressive tense. We are very proud of the children's final work and they are too.

In Maths, we have been learning how to recognise equal and unequal groups. We transferred this skill to not just looking at objects but amounts and totals as well.



Last week, we explained the following as it is vital for our maths learning:

One key aspect of Maths is fluency. It is important for children to have a range of number facts at their fingertips which they can use flexibly to help them solve problems and calculations. These range from addition and subtraction strategies (e.g. doubling, number bonds to 10/20/100, near doubles, number bonds within all numbers to 10 etc) to multiplication and division facts. Here are some useful websites to help develop fluency in maths when recalling facts such as number bonds to 10/20 and times tables:

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/daily10> (choose Level 2 to begin)

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>



In addition to these tools, White Rose Maths Hub have a free app called "One Minute Maths" which is suitable for devices running Android and iOS. It is aimed to help children in Reception and Key Stage 1 develop their addition and subtraction fluency skills and to recognise key facts quickly. Many of the key facts practised on the app are key for children in Year 2 to have automatic recall of. Feel free to download the app from the App Store and use this as an additional tool at home to support your child's mathematical development.

Following on from parent's evening conversations, we had some questions around how best to support your child with reading comprehension, once they are fluent. We have collated some question types that you may want to explore when reading with your child.

Vocabulary Questions with Victor

- Can you find a noun/adjective/verb that tells/shows you that...?
- Why do you think that the author used the word... to describe...?
- Which other word on this page means the same as...?
- Find an adjective in the text which describes...



Inference Questions with Iggy

- What do you think.... means? Why do you think that?
- Why do you think...?
- How do you think...?
- When do you think...?
- Where do you think...?
- How has the author made us think that...?



Retrieval Questions with Rex

- Who is/are the main character(s)?
- When/where is this story set? How do you know?
- Which is your favourite/worst/funniest/scariest part of the story? Why?
- Tell me three facts you have learned from the text.
- Find the part where...



Prediction Questions with Pip

- Where do you think.... will go next?
- What do you think... will say/do next?
- What do you think this book will be about? Why?
- How do you think that this will end? What makes you say that?
- Who do you think has done it?
- What might.... say about that?



Sequencing Questions with Suki

- What happens in the story's opening?
- How/where does the story start?
- What happened at the end of the...?
- What is the dilemma in this story? How is it resolved?
- Can you retell the story to me in 20 words or less?



If They Are Not Sure, Say:

- Have a guess. What could it be?
- What would you do if you were...?
- If you had done that, what might... have said?
- If we know that.... means...., what might... mean?
- Does the picture help us? How?
- Where else could we look for a clue?

If They Can't Read a Word, Say:

- Can you break it up?
- Which sounds do you know?
- Do you know a word that looks like it?
- Have a good guess.

Remember:

- Enjoy this moment.
- Share your thoughts and opinions about it too.
- Model good reading.
- Just five minutes every day makes a huge difference.

Have a lovely weekend and many thanks for your continued support.

Miss Stephenson, Mr Bale and the Year 2 Team