



Federation of Pinvin C of E First School and St Nicholas C of E Middle School

Main Street, Pinvin, Worcestershire WR10 2ER

Federation Head teacher: Mrs Sandra Jennings

Deputy Head Pinvin CE First School: Mrs Nicola Harvey

Deputy Head St Nicholas CE Middle School: Miss Rachel Dawson

Together, we inspire, discover and achieve

9th October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers of Sycamore class (Reception),

We would like to welcome our Reception children and parents to our wonderful class, Sycamore. We appreciate how challenging the last few months have been for everyone, but all of the children have accessed a range of learning and experiences that meet their individual needs because of you. When all of this is over, we are sure they will look back fondly on their extended time at home spending quality time with you all, but also remember how great it was to be back at school with their teachers and friends.

Our topic this half term is:

'Marvellous Me'



Subject	Focus
English	This first half term we will be working on the children's fine motor skills of being able to use different one handed tools and equipment with control and coordination and also encouraging the children to begin to use a correct pencil grip when writing. This will quickly lead on to the children learning to write their first name and starting to use the correct formation for the other letters that we will be learning in phonics.
Mathematics	Number rhymes and songs will be used throughout our maths teaching this half term to support children's understanding of number. The children will be learning to count, order and recognise numbers to 10 and beyond and to count accurately using one number for one object (1:1 correspondence).

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	Alongside our 'Marvellous Me' topic they will also be comparing each other, using pictograms to see the hair and eye colour of the class and measuring one another to see who is the tallest and smallest.
Topic work	We will be looking at our bodies and naming basic body parts and thinking about their function. The children will also be looking at similarities and differences between themselves and others. The children will also be exploring our new touch screen whiteboard, school laptops and iPads. The children will be learning the names of colours and how to mix different colours as well as following their love of junk modelling to make homes for Humpty Dumpty to keep him safe.
R.E.	Our theme for R.E. is belonging and how do you know you belong? We will be looking at belonging to the School community and Church community, as well as discussing groups which they children may belong to outside of school.
P.S.E.D.	P.S.E.D. is based around the theme 'Being Me' and this half term will be looking at rules and boundaries within school, as well as naming, recognising and controlling emotions.
P.E.	P.E. will follow the theme of 'Manipulation and Movement' and the children will be sending and receiving a variety of different P.E. equipment and using different parts of the body to move equipment with.

Communication books

The children will bring home their communication books this week. Once these are received, please ensure your child brings their communication book into school every day, as due to restrictions in place at the moment, this will be a really important way of passing messages to and from school. On page 6 in the communication book you will find passwords for Google Classroom and Purple Mash. More information on using Google Classroom will follow after half term.

Reading – A message from Mrs. Harvey (Deputy Headteacher)

As a school, one of our main focuses for this year is reading. Reading is an extremely important skill that impacts on all areas of learning. We want every child to develop 'a love of reading'.

In Reception, staff read to the children one to one, in small groups and as a whole class daily. They look at the pictures, discuss what is happening and what might happen next, as well as how the characters may be feeling and why. The children have started to choose a book from our library collection for you to share at home with them. Our expectation is that the children read for 10 minutes at least 3 times a week. We would like parents to talk to the children about what they have read and sign the communication book and note any response or conversation you have had about the book. Reading logs are found in the communication book from p.11 onwards.

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The children will receive a certificate in the final celebration assembly of each half term for reading regularly for six weeks. Reading at home can include anything that interests your child. This could include magazines, newspapers or a book that they have read even if it isn't their school book.

Please note that due to current guidance, returned books will be quarantined for 72 hours before being put back out.

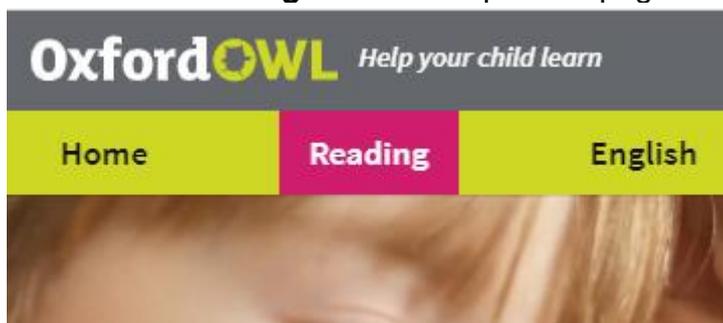
A resource we would highly recommend for you to access at home are e-books on www.oxfordowl.co.uk. They have some brilliant e-books which you can share for free!!!

As a parent, you need to register on the website to get access to the books.

Once you have registered, please follow these instructions to find e-books for your child to read:

Step 1:

Click on the **reading tab** at the top of the page.



Step 2:

Click on the dropdown menu for **e-book library**.

Browse the eBook library

Step 3:

Click on the levels option and choose '**Letters and Sounds Phase ...**' (see below depending on your child's year group). The reading books provide an opportunity for your child to consolidate his/her learning and develop his/her fluency.

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Class	Phonic phases taught during the year
Sycamore (Reception)	Phase 1, 2 and 3
Oak (Year 1)	Phases 2, 3, 4 and 5
Ash (Year 2)	Phases 3, 4, 5 and 6

There are lots of books there that we hope your child will enjoy. This is a new online resource which we are also using in school.

Reading in unusual places

A display is being created in school with the title 'Reading in unusual places' and we would like parents to email a photograph of their child reading to info@pinvinfed.co.uk by **19.10.20**. Every child that sends in a photograph will receive a prize!! The more unusual the better!!

Phonics

The children have started learning the sounds made by letters (phonemes). We are teaching 4 new sounds a week, with a recap lesson and time for teaching the recognition of sight (tricky) and High Frequency words.

Set	Taught sounds (phonemes)	Tricky or High Frequency words
Set 1	s a t p	
Set 2	i n m d	is it in at l
Set 3	g o c k	and
Set 4	ck e u r	to the
Set 5	h b f,ff l,ll ss	no go

Homework

The children will have weekly homework, sent home on a Friday, to be returned the following Wednesday please. This will alternate between English, Maths, Topic and PSED and will be linked to what the children are learning at school.

Equipment for School

Please continue to provide your child with a **named** water bottle every day, as water is essential to keep your child's brain 'switched on'. Please ensure your child's P.E. kit is in school and that it is named. Earrings and any other jewelry, including necklaces, need to be removed on P.E. days for your child's safety. P.E. will take place on a Friday for Sycamore Class.

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Mrs. Kilby will be teaching Sycamore class on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday morning and Mrs. Bennett will be teaching on a Wednesday afternoon, Thursday and Friday. We are supported by Mrs Prudden on a Monday, Tuesday and Friday and Mrs Lonnen on a Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. We are all really looking forward to getting to know you and your child this year.

Kind regards

Mrs Kilby and Mrs Bennett

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