

Clifford Road School

Reception Newsletter



We are learning to...

So far...

We have learnt 40 sounds! We have 6 more to go and then we will be learning to use them independently in our reading and writing. We have also learnt some 'tricky words'. These are the words that we can't sound out so we have to memorise the whole word. It would be great if you could encourage your child to find these words in their reading books and in other books around the house – they can be 'tricky word' detectives!

In maths we are getting better at careful counting and remembering what the numbers look like. We have also been making repeating patterns with colours and shapes and we sorted our Autumn collection – thanks to everyone who added to the fantastic assortment of Autumn resources.

We have been having fun in P4C – some animals came to visit and we had to think about which animals would make a good or a bad pet. We then thought about which animal was the odd one out – and came up with some excellent reasons why. Come and look at the display in the Reception corridor to see some of our ideas.

Don't Forget...

- To write in your child's reading diary regularly to keep us informed as to their progress at home. It's a real help for us to know how they are doing – thank you.
- Please sign up if you can help with swimming so that we know what help we have. We are struggling with getting helpers in R2 so if you can help it would be very much appreciated. The chart is outside the classroom door – thank you.

Dates for your diary

- The Reception Nativity (all children involved!) will be on Tuesday 12th December at 9.30am and Wednesday 13th December at 2pm. All welcome!
- Whole school carol concert: Friday 15th December at 9am

Did you know....

- As part of our 'growth mindset' ethos, every day we have 'Elmo's Challenge' and 'Elmo's Champion'. The challenge is an open-ended activity linked with our daily learning but is designed to stretch the children that bit further. If the children do the activity they get a sticker and stamper for their chart – this encourages the children to 'have a go' at things they may find hard...they may not be able to do it 'yet' but with practise they will improve and succeed. Elmo has a song all about this that we sing to help us remember. You can find it if you search for 'Elmo doesn't give up' song
- We also have Elmo's Champion – each day a child gets a special sticker if they have tried really hard to get better at an aspect of their learning. We all enjoy celebrating our achievements in this way and the champion gets a well deserved round of applause and 2 stampers!!

What's coming up.....

- We practise our number skills every day - we count many different things and find the corresponding number. It would be great if you could do this at home too and also look for numbers in the environment. If the children could take some photographs of the numbers all around them and bring them in to school, we can display them on the wow board. Thank you.
- We are moving from looking at autumn to looking at what happens in the winter. We will also be finding out about cold places eg the Arctic and Antarctic and discovering what it is like there.
- We will be learning our last set of sounds and a new set of tricky words; he, she, we, me, be.

Please do not hesitate to see a member of the Early Years team if you have any concerns or queries, or would like to help in the classroom. You will need a DBS check to do this but we can organise this for you and it is completely free of charge.

