



DARTINGTON
CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

Woodpeckers Weekly Newsletter

Friday 12th November 2021



HOME LEARNING

Google Classroom - The class code for our class is: ydsw2zh

Reading – Please continue to read at least four times per week at home.

Spellings – Please learn the spellings from the lists attached. There is a support group list for those children for whom spelling is particularly tricky.



Maths- Keep practising your number facts using the TT Rockstars and Numbots apps. If you don't have log ins for these, please let me know. Last week's TT Rockstars AND Numbotter of the week was Yanni! Great work Yanni!

ROUTINES

PE – Monday (outdoor) and Wednesdays (indoor) Please note this is a change from last half term.

Forest School – Tuesdays

Dear Parents and Carers,
We've had another very busy week in Woodpeckers, but there has been loads to celebrate. On Monday we were visited by Kip from Devon Music Hub to teach us some wonderful playtime songs. The children were brilliant at joining in so well done to them all for such musical brilliance, it was a great afternoon. On Tuesday morning, Miss Humphries, Mrs Huish and Mrs Palmer (our Trust maths lead) visited maths lessons across the school. They were really impressed with the Woodpeckers' mathematical explanations and their use of resources to prove their answers. I am really proud of how well they modelled their partner work and focused on their independent learning; they really made our class stand out as wonderful role models for learning. On Tuesday afternoon, the children were given the opportunity to put their "Tree Plant Tuesdays" plan into action. They really enjoyed an opportunity to plant some seeds across our site and we're now looking forward to seeing which ones grow...
On Thursday, Mr Chadwick was with the Woodpeckers class all day as I was out of school training the next generation of teachers on teaching reading – one of my very favourite subjects. I've been so inspired recently by the love of books shared by all the children in Woodpeckers class. I can't keep up with all their book recommendations (!) but am really enjoying sharing book chats with them and discussing our favourites. 😊 With this in mind, please see the information below about a new reading challenge at our local library.
This week, we've also got started on our new DT topic, focusing on designing packaging for a Christmas decoration. If you have any interesting packaging at home, particularly 3d shapes which open into a nets, please send them in for us to take a look at.
As always, please get in touch if needed using our email address, dartington@lapsw.org Kind regards, Mrs Foucher



Attendance: Thank you to everyone for continuing to do everything you can to make sure children are in school as much as possible. Please continue to bring your child to school if they are well enough - unless they have had a positive test result.

Please remember that every day missed is 6 hours of learning lost.



Star of the Week

This week's star learner is **Albert** for being a wise member of our class – both in his behaviour choices and in his learning. 😊



Important!

Please continue to ensure your child has a water bottle and a waterproof coat (with a hood) with them each day. Thank you.

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Learning Academy Partnership Registered Office: Suite 4 Zealley House, Greenhill Way, Kingsteignton, Newton Abbot, TQ12 3SB Company number: 07713540

Year 4 spellings	Support spelling list
<p>group</p> <p>guard</p> <p>guide</p> <p>heard</p> <p>heart</p>	<p>each</p> <p>eat</p> <p>eggs</p> <p>end</p> <p>even</p>



The Secret Book Quest is a brand-new reading challenge designed to encourage a lifelong love of reading in children. The challenge is aimed at children over the age of five, with the target of getting them to have fun reading 50 books.

The **Secret Book Quest** is completely **FREE** and a great way to inspire children to develop their reading skills. Library staff are on hand to support the children, helping them to discover new authors and explore a wide range of different types of books and ways of reading. The library is completely free to join - so any children who are not already members can be signed up at the same time as joining The Secret Book Quest.

Every child who signs up will receive a special Secret Book Quest booklet packed full of puzzles, fun facts and activities. There are 10 themed 'zones' for children to travel through including animals, underwater, space and technology. To complete the Quest and win a prize, they must read five books for each zone and collect all the code-stickers along the way – a total of 50 books. The final sticker is the missing piece that enables them to decipher a secret code and complete the challenge!

How the Challenge works

- Children sign up at their local library and receive a Secret Book Quest booklet and their first sticker
- Children borrow and read 50 books of their own choice, collecting special stickers along the way to add to their booklet.
- Library staff are on hand to advise and help find books they'll love
- Children are presented with a certificate upon reaching the halfway mark (reading 25 books) and again when they complete the challenge (reading 50 books), along with a special finisher's prize.

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