Reception Newsletter January 2009

Welcome Back!

RVJ and the rest of reception wish a warm welcome back to Mrs Coulman who has returned to us after a break on maternity leave. She rejoins Mrs Ham, Mrs Jacketts and Mrs Graves as a full time Nursery Nurse. The team in RVJ now consists of Mrs Jones, Mrs Coulman and Mrs Graves.

In two weeks time we shall also be welcoming a PGCE student into Mrs Blair's class. She will be with us for a total of 6 weeks.

Dinner Money and Lunch Slips

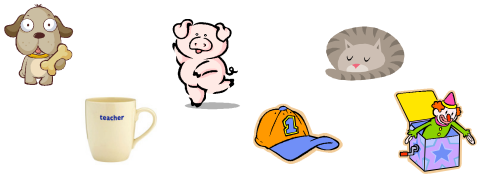
Please make sure you fill in a lunch slip and return it in your child's book bag each week. A large number of children, particularly those who are packed lunch, are not sending them in. Also, if you are sending in dinner money, please make sure it comes in on Monday, is in a named envelope and clearly states which day the money is for.

Topics

This half term our topics are Winter, Colour and Chinese New Year. If you have anything you think would be useful or interesting for the Chinese New Year topic, please send it in on Monday 26th January. Each class will have a 'show and tell' session and your child can tell the rest of the children about what they have brought in.

Early Reading and Writing

As mentioned in the December newsletter, we have now been through all the 44 sounds (Jolly Phonics). We are so pleased at the number of children who know all the single letter sounds - well done. They now need to focus on learning the double and triple letter sounds (digraphs and trigraphs) and your help at home is invaluable. We are doing lots of fun activities at school to help the children learn the sounds and if you would like to borrow any of our resources to continue the learning journey at home, please see your class teacher. Another idea you could do at home, in the car or just about anywhere (!) is saying a simple 3 letter word to your child (preferably one with a vowel in the middle) and asking them to tell you how to spell it - remember, they will say the letter sound, not the name. Then you can reverse the process - show them the word and ask them to blend the sounds together. These skills are vital tools for writing and reading and you can never practise enough! (Well, assuming that you are **both** still having fun that is!)



Maths Games

During this term we shall have a number of fun number games available for you to borrow and play at home with your child and the rest of the family. Starting next Friday (16th), you can come into school at 3.30pm and choose a game to take home (there will be a box of games outside each classroom). We shall operate a simple, self-service system and just ask that you return the game the following Friday afternoon.

Reception Fund

Yet another reminder for those who have not yet paid their reception fund money to try and settle up this week (£24 for the year or £8 for the term). Thank you.