



WEEKLY PARENT NEWSLETTER – Reception Cubs 10th March 2014

- **Wednesday 12 March –Maths Day**
- **Thursday 13 March-Swap Shop. See below for information.**
- **Uniform - Lost Property Collection**

Many thanks to our parent volunteers (Mrs Cooper, Mrs Burford & Mrs Renwick) who spent time sorting the lost property. Many items have now been reunited with their owners, however, a very large number of items have no name labels and so could not be returned. These unlabelled items will on display in the Primary Boardroom from 8:10 - 8:40 every morning next week so parents and students can come and try to find lost clothing. Teachers do spend a lot of time teaching and reminding children to look after their belongings but children are often careless so PLEASE can we ask that all school uniform is clearly labelled with your child's name.

- **World Water Day**

Friday 21 March – World Water Day is approaching. We will be celebrating the vital resource of 'water' on Friday through lessons and activities designed to inspire and inform about many different aspect of water. We hope to raise money for Water Aid (<http://www.wateraid.org/>) as we did last year through pupils designing and painting (on their own faces, hands, arms etc) water inspired images. Face paints will be available at school or this can be done at home. Hopefully all children can donate 10p to our cause.

Learning Theme of the week

Last week the children were asking the question "What do we need electricity for?" We started the week by having a power cut so the children had to spot things that no longer worked. They noticed that things with batteries were still working so they investigated stored electricity. They particularly enjoyed trying to make a bulb light using wires and a battery as well as exploring old electrical items; unscrewing them and seeing what was inside. Don't worry about electrical items at home being dismantled...we have talked about safety and asking permission first!



This week's big question is "How can we help look after our planet?"

The children have seen that electricity is made by different methods and that some of these cause pollution. How can they save electricity and so help reduce pollution? The children will hear from Captain Planet who will encourage us to switch off lights when not being used as well as closing doors to save heating/cooling. The children will go onto make posters and labels reminding people how to **REDUCE** their use of electricity.

Captain Planet (a fictional character) will also tell us about **REUSING** items. On Thursday we'll have a Swap Shop. We would like to encourage the children to bring in a used toy or book that they can swap with other children from Reception . Can we ask that you find one item that your



child no longer needs/wants that might be useful to others and that they'd be willing to swap? If these could come into school before Thursday we'll be able to display them and have them swapped before Golden Time on Friday!

Another thing we can do to help our planet is **RECYCLE**. They children will be able to explore and sort items found in school; card, paper, plastic bottles etc and see how these can be recycled. The children will have the opportunity to make booklets, jewellery and pictures from recycled materials. Watch out for your recycled shopping lists coming home-it would be wonderful if the children could see you using them .

Wednesday is a special Maths Day. The whole school will be working on special maths themes. In Reception our theme or big question is "**How can we make 10?**" The children will have lots of activities based around 10 ,allowing them to explore mathematical concepts. Can we make a model that is 10cm long? Can we weigh out some sand that is 10grammes? How many times can we jump up and down in 10seconds? Can we make 10 RMB using different coins? Can we think of different addition and subtraction problems that have 10 as the answer? Sounds like Fun!

We will continue daily practise of numbers 1- 20 :writing, reading, counting, ordering and writing numbers .

Some of the main learning intentions taught and explored this week will be:

Communication, Language and Literacy

- Children use their phonic knowledge to write words in ways which match their spoken sounds. They also write some irregular common words. They write simple sentences which can be read by themselves and others. Some words are spelt correctly and others are phonetically plausible.
- Children speak using past and future forms accurately when talking about events that have happened or are to happen in the future.
- Children will give attention to what others say and respond appropriately

Mathematics

- Children will continue practising their counting; reading and writing numbers.
- Children will begin to use the vocabulary involved in subtraction and addition and record using marks that they can explain
- Children will begin to identify mathematical problems

Expressive arts and design

- Children explore a variety of materials, experimenting with colour design, texture ,function and form

Understanding the World

- Children know about similarities and differences in relation to places, objects and materials
- Children know about similarities and differences between themselves and others

Physical development

- Children show good control and coordination in large and small movements

Phonics

This week all groups will continue to have child friendly assessments to ensure the children are in the correct groups and that they know and can use the letters and sounds taught.

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All groups will continue to review and learn tricky words.

Mandarin

This week the children will be recapping the vocabulary of sea animals, we will look into some specific animals and talk about how to protect sea animals and ocean. We will introduce a story which is called ‘海的女儿’ (hai de nv er).

Vocabulary: swim 游泳 (you yong) jellyfish 水母 (shui mu) coral reef 珊瑚 (shan hu) seaweed 水藻 (shuicao) whale 鲸 (jing)

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Dutch

Carnaval was het thema deze week. Via filmpjes en verhalen weten nu ook de Noordelingen wat het is om drie dagen lang te hossen en te zingen door de straten. Nieuwe woorden hierbij waren: de stoet, de polonaise, de confetti, de serpentine, Prins Carnaval, de praalwagen, verkleed en nog veel meer. Om de feestvreugde te verhogen is er gesprongen en gezongen op het Vliegerlied, de carnavalskraker van 2014. Zie Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mxhr6oOPnh8>
Voor de eerste keer zijn we met z'n allen naar de bibliotheek gegaan om te lezen en een boekje uit te kiezen. Het bieboek dient elke week op dinsdag mee naar school te worden genomen.

Can you help?

Remember to send in an old toy or book for our Swap Shop.

If anyone has an old phone or small electrical items that you no longer need could you please send them in for the children to investigate? It would also be useful to have some battery operated toys or games. As always thanks for all the boxes you have sent in! Keep them coming!

Please let us know if you have any questions or comments.

Many thanks again.

The Reception Team.