



SINGLETON C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dear Parents,

Wishing you all a very Happy New Year! I hope you all had a great Christmas break. Thank You for all of the lovely Christmas Gifts. Now your child enters their second term at school—how time flies! We will continue to build on the great achievements of last term. The children are all very settled and making good friendships. Caring for one another, sharing and taking turns.

Many of the children will move into stage 3 phonics, these include the diagraphs---ar, ow, ai, oa, are and air. The children will use them in their reading and writing. You may feel that your child's reading book is too easy for him/ her, but this ensures that when they reach the harder books (which have these diagraphs in) they continue to read with continued confidence. Please continue to talk about the stories and encourage them to make predictions. This term we will begin to encourage the children to read to the whole class.

We will start to play hiding High Frequency words in the woods, it is lovely to hear them ask if they can play the game again! I am really pleased with the independent writing that the children are doing—they are using their phonic knowledge effectively and sounding out words. Cursive writing is tricky but many children are really beginning to master it now! We are encouraging children to write in sentences, leaving finger spaces between words. Writing in the sand and soil and painting words outside will all be in the daily timetable.

In numeracy, we continue with numbers to 20, ordering them, talking about one more and one less. Some children are combining two groups of numbers together, we start by doing this practically and then using numbers and eventually we use the mathematical symbols. By taking our time and engaging in a lot of practical work we ensure that the children have really firm foundations in number.

We will continue to have lots of fun dancing and singing and doing creative work. Forest schools will resume on a Tuesday afternoon. Our "office" role play area is proving to be very popular and we will keep it until it loses its appeal. The Post Office writing area is also a huge hit! It is great that the children often choose to go these areas and write and draw. They love to sit together and talk about their work.

Next half term we will have a "mini" topic of Chinese New Year. When we will look at the customs and traditions of the Chinese New Year. We will also be making Pancakes and thinking about Lent and the build up to Easter.

Thank You so much for your continued support and for all of the support and understanding you showed last term. It was really appreciated.

Karen Haigh