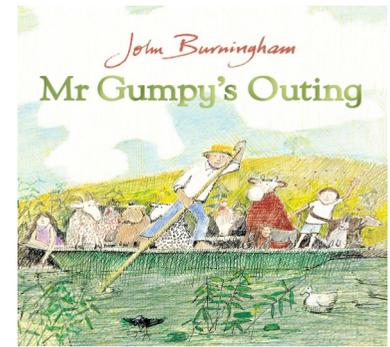


What are we learning this week?



This week we are looking at our first text in which to explore the new topic for **Summer Days**. We will be learning the story off by heart and will be beginning to prepare for our assembly a week on Wednesday (put it in your diary!). We will be retelling the story through role play and having opportunities to write our own versions of it. Show and tell will be on Monday as usual, and we will look forward to looking at and listening to the interesting things that the children have chosen.

The topic work this week is centred around the great outdoors and we will be looking at plants and the growing cycle. We have already looked at sunflowers and planted our own and we plan to study Van Gogh's Sunflowers. Having investigated his painting, we are going to paint our own Van Gogh inspired masterpieces. Do take the opportunity to do some research at home and share their learning. We are always interested to hear about what the children have found out at home.

In our maths work this week, we will be involved in work that links to our text. In the story, all the animals in the boat fall in the water so we will be investigating capacity; let's hope the weather improves so we can be outside! Please could you save any margarine tubs for us to make boats with (there is only so much margarine that Mrs Beckett and I can eat in a weekend!). Bring them in on Monday if you can.

Home learning:

Reception: We still need to consolidate phase 3 letters and sounds and to be secure with high frequency and decodable words. Encourage your child to write as much as possible, to use their developing skills. Don't forget to talk about both the letter names and letter sounds so the children can identify what they are called and what they 'sound' like. The following website has games that you could try to help make learning a bit more fun: <http://www.letters-and-sounds.com/phase-4-games.html>

Please continue to practise recognising written numerals to 20; we are getting much better at this but need to really secure knowledge and understanding before Y1.

Nursery: Please try to read with your child as often as possible, encourage them to talk about the book and make simple prediction about what might happen next.

Reading at least 3 times a week is very important. Please write in the reading diary if you have heard your child read. When we know they have read the book at home, we can change it for the next one. Book changing usually happens on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Guided reading takes place on Tuesdays and Thursdays. It is a really busy term so on occasions, the book may not be changed on the correct day.

Mathematics and Literacy Ideas

<http://www.abc.net.au/countusin/default.htm>

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/5-7-years/letters-and-sounds>

<http://www.ictgames.com/resources.html>