



23<sup>rd</sup> September 2022

Excalibur Primary School

Term: Autumn 1 Week: Three

## Reception Class Newsletter

We have had another busy week, the children are picking up our new routines really well and it's wonderful to watch their friendships blossom. Our learning this term is very much based around getting to know each other and celebrating our similarities and differences. This week we talked about our families and the children drew family portraits.

### Make and Do

We are always grateful for items we can use in our 'make and do' area. Wrapping paper or kitchen roll tubes are perfect. We can't use toilet roll tubes for hygiene reasons. Other items like material scraps, ribbon, wool and cardboard boxes. We can't use tins, glass, or medical packets either.

### Outdoor Kitchen

If you have any flowers that are going to be thrown out or plants and leaves etc. that we can use in our outdoor kitchen area they will be very gratefully received. You can send them in throughout the year. Please don't send anything poisonous though!

### Phonics Teaching at Excalibur

Phonics is a way of teaching children how to read and write. It helps children hear, identify and use different sounds that distinguish one word from another in the English language. Written language can be compared to a code, so knowing the sounds of individual letters and how those letters sound when they're combined will help children decode words as they read. Understanding phonics will also help children know which letters to use.

At Excalibur we use a programme called 'Read Write Inc' to teach children phonics. You can find out more about the scheme by watching some short videos which can be found on our website <http://www.excalibur.cheshire.sch.uk/page/phonics/6373>. This week we have begun playing Fred talk games. Fred Talk games are a fun way to teach children how to orally blend sounds into words. Fred instructs children to touch their nose, hands on your head etc. 'Fred says put your hands on your l-e-g'. 'Fred says put your hands on your b-a-ck' or he tells them about his adventures e.g 'Fred saw a h-e-n on the farm'. All children develop at different rates and some of our children are already able to do this. Some children are not able to do this yet but by playing games at home, where you talk like Fred will help all children. We will be posting videos starting from next week on Seesaw to explain more and will be hosting a RWI information evening before half term so please look out for them.

Have a lovely weekend, Mrs Rogers, Mrs Bailey, Mrs Thompson and Mrs Bebbington



## Super stars



Congratulations to Jayden and Merida



### Reading Records

It's been great to read about your experiences of sharing stories at home. Please keep filling them in. Please could you also send the reading record into school every day? There will be times when we write to you so we will need them to be in school.