

## Reception weekly newsletter – 1<sup>st</sup> May 2015



We began our planting this week, planting some beautiful geraniums. First some of us used a hand drill to make some holes in the bottom of some wellies. It was hard work as some of the wellies were quite



tough! Then we filled them with compost and planted our geraniums. They look fantastic in our outdoor area! As it is still a little cold at night we are holding off planting in our tyres. But we plan to start digging over our vegetable patch as soon as we can. We have just received delivery of some fantastic new tools which we are very keen to use!

Continuing the welly theme we went on a brilliant welly walk around the school grounds. We had lots of fun in our wellies, running, splashing, jumping and stomping. For his 'show and tell' Wesley brought in a birds nest from his garden and Mrs Bundy has kindly given us a nest that she found. So whilst we were on our walk we collected lots of small twigs which we have used to build our own bird nests.



We have made a fantastic shoe shop in the classroom that sells a range of shoes. The ballet shoes and football boots seem to be the most popular sales! We have moved our telephone box inside so that customers can ring the shop to place an order or make an enquiry.



We have been looking at the size of our wellies and made a big chart to show the most popular size of welly. Some of us have been ordering wellies by size whilst another group investigated how many wellies they could fit on one piece of newspaper. Then they were given a piece of newspaper that

looked double the size to find out if they could get double the number of wellies on it. It was a great investigation! Another group have begun looking at numbers that add together to make 10 (these are known as number bonds). We found 11 different ways we could make 10!



All of us have been counting forwards and backwards in 1's, 2's and 10's (to 100) and we have been developing strategies for adding and subtracting by using objects, a number line (11-20) or a 100 square. We have also been trying to add and subtract single digit numbers by putting the first number in our heads then counting on or back. Some children can do this without using their fingers to help them count on or back but most of us have been using our fingers to help us. For example, to work out  $4+4$  we would put 4 in our heads. Hold up 4 fingers and touch each finger as we count on 4 more with the answer being 8.

Thank you to Matilda B's Grandad who was our mystery reader this week and read two fantastic stories.

We are getting very excited about our trip to Stockley Farm on Wednesday. The forecast is not brilliant so please make sure your child has a waterproof coat that will keep them warm as well as dry!

Thank you for all the wonderful comments you are writing in the planners and about homework. It is greatly appreciated. Thank you also for all the wonderful things you are doing at home. I know for some children, asking them to do anything outside of school can be a challenge but anything you can do helps. As I keep saying it does NOT have to be pages of beautifully written work.

Conversations and practical activities are much more fun and likely to capture most children's interest. Your children are still very young and they are working very hard in school each day!

Congratulations to Seth and Xanthe who are our stars of the week this week and to Maddie and William who sat on the VIP table to eat their lunch today.

I hope you have a lovely bank holiday weekend and we will see you on Tuesday! Please return your Stockley farm trip slips on Tuesday at the latest!

Thanks again for your wonderful support!

Mrs Rogers, Mrs Newbould and Miss Harding