

Reception

Happy new year to you all and all the best for 2017!

A new year begins and so does our new theme, **Dinosaurs**. We will be using a variety of fiction books especially those based on 'Harry and his Bucketful of Dinosaurs', non-fiction texts and the internet to learn about these prehistoric animals. If you have any non-fiction books that you feel would be of benefit, could we please borrow them until half term. We have plenty of fiction books, thank you. We will learn a great deal of vocabulary and names that the children will be able to use in their own writing. The children will use their growing imaginations during small world play and music sessions. They will have the opportunity to make some of the resources that will be used in their imaginary play and in literacy and maths learning. This theme lends itself well to some of the children's number, shape and measurement work too. The children will become dinosaur explorers (palaeontologists), they will be the experts so beware!

Their reading skills and understanding will develop through weekly guided reading sessions where the children will read the same text together in small groups then questions and discussion based on the book and characters will follow.

The Maths non-negotiables will be planned for daily and some activities will be based on these.

The children will start bringing Maths games home every **Monday** which need to be **returned** on the **Friday** of the same week. Please play these games with your child, encouraging correct mathematical vocabulary eg more than, less than, add, altogether and so on. Please check all contents are put back in the plastic wallet after every game and please write a comment about the game and how your child managed it or enjoyed it at the **back** of their blue Pathway books. The games cover various aspects of maths and are at different levels of difficulty, we hope you enjoy them together and the children will learn from them too.

On a **Friday** the children will start to bring home a piece of handwriting/phonics homework, this needs to be **returned** the following **Tuesday** please. Could you make sure your child completes the task with a sharp **pencil** while sitting correctly at a table so s/he can do the best work they can. Your child needs to be holding the pencil

correctly and forming each letter in the correct way, assist if you need to, the dots on each line are there to show your child where to start each phonic sound – 4 to a line. Hopefully your child will be able to think of a word with each of the sounds in then write them – allow your child to sound the words out if they can or assist if they are struggling. **(Remember sounding out phonetically is acceptable).** Please add a comment in the box at the bottom of each sheet linked to their handwriting effort and their phonic ability. I hope the children enjoy their homework and delight in showing you what they are capable of. If you have any queries about these tasks, please come and ask me.

Please continue reading with your child as often as possible and **please, please, please** remember to write in your child's Pathway book on a regular basis.

Physical Development in the hall is still every Wednesday morning and for this half term we will be taking part in Little Kickers so could children have velcroed trainers or plimsoles please.

Mrs C A Parker Mrs J Aydeniz Mrs J Fryer Mrs A McNab Mrs C Foster
Mrs C McGeary