



Lyminster Primary School

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18th November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Our Topic – ‘Toy Story- To Infinity and Beyond!’

Over the last half-term we have been very enthusiastic animal explorers! Personal Development week was lots of fun as we improved our fitness and explored our emotions. Please do look on the Year 1 page on the school website for photos of our learning.

We are going to infinity and beyond with our new topic all about toys from the old to the new! We will be learning about fabulous festivals, including Diwali and Christmas. We will be learning our songs for our class Nativity Performance, writing persuasive letters to Father Christmas and exploring how toys of the past and present are made.

Toy Request

We have a request! If parents or grandparents still own special toys from their own past we would like you to share them with the class please. We will ensure that the toys are quarantined for a week before showing them. We promise to treasure anything you bring in; this will also reinforce to the children that we should share and respect toys, and to understand that our memories are very precious to us. You could also talk to your child about your favourite toy and he/she can tell us in class!

Numicon

Please continue to use your Numicon packs we gave out last year. Numicon can help your child to understand which numbers are odd/even, as well as other areas of number; addition, subtraction and pattern. It is very useful to understand how to use Numicon with your child so please ask should you have any questions. If you need ideas, there is a PowerPoint on Numicon on the Year 1 page on the school website. Please have fun exploring maths!

Christingle/Advent

To encourage the understanding and meaning of the Christian celebration of ‘Christingle’ Year 1 will be watching a Christingle service from the ‘All Saint’s Church’, which is over the road from the school. We will listen to our friends at the church, Father Tom and Vanessa, who will be leading a Christingle service for us.

Following the service from Tom, Year 1 will make a Christingle of their own. Please can you provide your child with an orange and we will provide the rest. Repeating this important festival in the Christian faith each year helps to embed it in the children’s memory. It is also part of the R.E. curriculum. Please can you help your child by bringing in an **orange** on **Monday 30th November** and assist them at home to learn the Christingle song. Thank you.

Home Learning - Reading

To help your child this half term please can you continue to encourage your child to ‘read’ daily and we ask for you to continue to **write a comment in the reading diary about what they read, if they understood the story and if they**



can relate the story to their own lives. I (Mrs Galvin) have chosen to look in the diaries on a weekly rota depending which group they are in, therefore I shall be reading the comments each fortnight. Your comments really do help us to know which reading skills your child is showing you at home.

We will continue to change your reading books on a weekly basis, the RWI book is **specifically chosen** to match the phonic skills your child is **displaying in school**. We read in groups **every Thursday** so please can you ensure the books are in the book bag and returned **each week**. (At times last half term we were given piles of books at a time and because of us having to quarantine them it took us a long time to have them out of the system; leaving others a small choice to choose from) Thank you.

Wow moments

We would like to begin to share wow moments again with you. Each week we will let you know by text if your child has a wow moment (something they have been trying to achieve over a period of time and now they can do it!) We ask that you also email/phone the school office if you have something at home that you would like to share with us. Some children have already had their work from home shown to the class. It would be great to see a wow moment from you all!

Outside Classroom

As always the weather is very changeable, it would be great if **all the children could always have a warm coat in school please** and can every item that is brought into school **be clearly labelled with your child's name please**. Please remember that although we always tell the children to wear aprons, your child will be involved in many messy activities throughout the day so please do not send them to school in coats that are considered expensive, or their best coats. Thank you.

If you have any questions, ideas or wish to share news about your child please call or email me. Please send all 'show and tell' in an email to the school office...we would love to see your child's learning at home.

Thank you for all your support, it is very appreciated. The children are very happy and settled in class, we would like to say a sincere thank you to all parents from us for your ongoing support and kindness. We are one big happy Year 1 family!

Kind regards,

Julie Galvin and Lucy Osborne

