



7<sup>th</sup> October 2016

Dear Parents,

In phonics this week the children have been learning to blend words. They have learnt to listen to Metal Mike's robot talking voice and push the letters back together to say the word they hear. You might like to practise this skill with your child over the weekend using everyday actions. E.g. please get your c-oa-t, find me the k-ey-s, go to b-e-d. You would say the letters in the word slowly and your child would push them back together again to find or do the thing they were asked. You may also like to reverse the roles so that they have to use their robot talking voice and you have to listen and blend the word.

In maths this week the children have been learning to match quantity to numerals. We have played how many biscuits are on the plate, how many cubes are in the tower and how many claps can you hear. The children have been learning to recognise the numerals quickly and match them to the number of objects seen or heard. We have also been learning to represent numbers using the written numeral, tally marks or spots.

### Information

- From next week please support your child to line up in a straight line at the gate in the morning with all adults and siblings to one side. We will be encouraging the children to come into class independently from next week so where possible please say goodbye to your child at the gate. We understand that on some days you may need to come a little closer to the door to encourage them in but please prepare and support your child to come in to school on their own.
- Please support your child to practise holding and using scissors correctly to cut paper for a purpose. We noticed this week that many of the children were holding them upside down, putting their fingers in correctly but then flipping their hand or using two hands to make snips. The children have been taught to put their thumb in the top hole and their first finger in the hole underneath and open and close their hand to make snips.
- On Friday the 14<sup>th</sup> October I will be out of class for the day on a course. The children will be prepared for this change and Mrs Woodward will ensure the day runs as smoothly as normal. Mrs Crook will be covering in Ladybird class and the children have met her several times already.
- Calling all **PET OWNERS** the children have shown a keen interest in pets. If you have a pet please could you email me a photo of them with a short extract to tell me about it to: [ladybird@broadwater-down.kent.sch.uk](mailto:ladybird@broadwater-down.kent.sch.uk) we will be using the photos next week in our learning time. Thank you.

Miss Hughes

