

Emerald Class Newsletter

First half Autumn Term 2009

Welcome to Emerald Class, we hope you and your family enjoyed the summer break. This half term in Emerald Class our theme is 'We are Emeralds, we sparkle and shine'. We will be discussing our targets for the year and how we will shine in Emerald Class.

We will explore our local community and find our addresses on a street map, draw pictures of our homes and draw a map of our journey to school.

We will look at artists' paintings of wildlife and then visit the wildlife garden and create our own paintings and collages.

In literacy we will write our own stories based on familiar experiences, we will label a picture of the body and write captions about our senses. We will also explore and write our own poetry based on the five senses.

In PE we will explore the different ways we can move our bodies in gymnastics. We will also be doing tai kwon do.

Children can bring in a labelled bottle with water.

Please send in PE kits on Mondays, children will bring this home on Fridays.

Please ensure all uniform items are clearly named.

In numeracy we will be practising counting forwards and backwards in ones, finding one more and one less than a given number and number bonds to 10. We will also be exploring 2D and 3D shapes and patterns.

Children will also be involved in problem solving activities where they can apply the skills they have learnt in different contexts.

Homework

- reading books will be changed daily, please write or tick in the reading record
- diaries will be sent home on Fridays, children can write or draw anything they like in these and we will respond to this weekly.
- maths games will be sent home on a Friday, please return by Tuesday.
- spellings will come home on Mondays, please help your child to practise these and we will do a spelling quiz each Friday.

We look forward to getting to know you this year, please feel free to pop in for a chat at the end of any day if you have any questions or concerns.

Mrs Kempson, Miss Thiselton, Ms Salimon and Ms Bell

Homework Activities

- Please support your child to continue and build on the learning they do at school at home. Here are some ideas that link to our theme ' We are Emeralds, we sparkle and shine.' We look forward to seeing some of this learning from your children and hearing about what they have done.
- ask your child to tell you their individual literacy and numeracy targets;
 - when walking around the local area encourage your child to identify landmarks and buildings and discuss how people in the community use them. Children could draw pictures of the buildings they remember seeing and label them;
 - practise counting objects, such as cutlery for each member of the family at dinner time;
 - practise and begin to memorise number bonds to 10;
 - do you or someone you know have photos of this area from years ago that we could use to identify changes that have occurred?
 - visit the local library and find and read poetry about the senses;
 - model and encourage your child to use vocabulary to describe objects of different sizes and weights;
 - go on a shape walk in the local area and encourage your child to find shapes in the things they can see. On their return home they could draw a picture of this and bring it in to share with the class;
 - visit the Science Museum, in the basement level there is an area called 'The Garden' which allows children to explore their senses, it is free!