



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



Aire View Infant School

Elliott Street, SILSDEN, BD20 0AW

Telephone & Fax: 01535 653290

Headteacher : Mrs V Bottomley

Website : www.aireviewinfant.org.uk

E-mail : office@aireview.bradford.sch.uk

21st September 2013

Dear Parents and Carers,

We had a very good response to our home learning survey in the summer term and as a result we are planning to make some changes over the current academic year. Below you will find a summary of what we have in place already and some additional exciting changes.

Bear words -

Your child will receive a set of Bear words (high frequency words) in a plastic wallet. There will be a total of 8 sets that your child will learn to read by the end of the Reception year. When your child is ready for the next set of words we will put them into the plastic wallets. There is a Parents Home Guidance letter explaining everything you need to know about them and how you can help your child at home (previously given out on Friday 20th September 2013). Once your child has learnt to read all 8 sets of Bear words they will then learn to spell them at their own pace

Maths Challenges

Each Friday your child will receive a Maths challenge card with two short activity ideas. These can easily fit into your day and will help your child to see maths as fun. The challenges relate to the early Years Curriculum- Specific Areas of Learning called 'Mathematics'.

Reading books

Your child will receive a reading book appropriate to their level so that they can further practice and develop their early reading skills. Also they will have a reading record book where we would appreciate it if at times you could write a brief comment to indicate how they coped or whether they enjoyed it. We will change the books on Tuesday and Friday.

Phonics Books

Your child will receive a 'Sound Book' (which needs to be kept in their book bags). This book contains the letter sounds in the order in which we will be teaching them. Each letter comes with an action as this helps them to learn them in a fun, multi-sensory approach. Once they can recognise and say each letter sound they will begin to put them together (blend) to make words e.g. c-a-t to make cat.

Creative Home Learning

This will be given out at the beginning of every half term and collected in during the final week of every half term. We will send a note or text to remind you, so don't worry! The home learning will be linked to the topic of the half term. Your child will receive a creative home learning book which can be used to record their ideas and work. Some activities will not require the use of a book so a photo stuck in the book would be great! The work produced will then be shared by the pupil with the rest of their class during the last week of the half term. The home Learning is not designed to be done totally independently but collaboratively with an adult or older sibling at home. I have included our first example of creative home learning below. The list is not exhaustive so please feel free to add your own ideas into the 'pot'! As this is a new initiative in school we would welcome your feedback!

It would be great if your child could decorate their creative home learning book. This might include pictures or photos of hobbies, a repeating pattern, bubble letter writing or something else that you can think of.

Please choose one or two activities from the following list and record your findings in your book:

- Make a Funny Bones scene in a shoe box
- Make a 'big skeleton' or the 'dog skeleton' stick puppet
- Dress up and act out the Funny bones story with your family - video, record or take pictures of the event we could post these on our website
- Make a model of the dog skeleton using recycled materials - boxes, tubes, bottle tops or natural materials twigs, cones or pebbles
- Make a cake in the shape of a skeleton, write down how you made it and take a picture of it
- Make a dog basket or kennel to keep your skeleton dog warm and safe
- Go to the Booktime website www.booktime.org.uk there are lots of activities for you to do and make
- Visit a pet shop talk about the type of things you buy for a dog
- Paint or draw a picture of a pet
- Are you going trick or treating? Could you take a picture of you in your outfits
- Could you teach a member of your family the song "Dem bones, dem bones, dem dry bones"
- Make a pumpkin lantern
- Read one of the other Funny bones stories by Janet and Allan Ahlberg.
There are many to choose from, including: The Black Cat , The Ghost Train, The Pet Shop , Mystery Tour , Dinosaur Dreams , Skeleton Crew , Give the Dog A Bone , Bumps in the Night - Record yourself and/or your child reading it. If you copied it to a CD we could share these stories with the class
Go on an Autumn walk and make a collage of what you found

Maths games lending service

We will also be commencing a maths games lending service. This will begin on **Tuesday 8th October at 3.30pm**. If you would like to borrow a game from school then please come into the school hall with a parent at 3.30pm and everything will be explained.

Have fun with your creative home learning and thank you for your continued support!

Mrs T O'Connor
Assistant Head Teacher