



# Gusford Primary School

*"Promoting Achievement and Success."*

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Headteacher : Mrs C Claydon

25 September 2017

Dear Parents/ Carers,

## Last week in Reception...

The children have had a very busy week again. Phonics lessons were started, in ability based groups. The children were introduced to 'Fred Frog', a character who can only speak in phonemes (letter sounds) so the children have to listen hard to hear the words that he is saying. A part of Reception phonic lessons is dedicated to letter formation.

During their lessons this week all children learnt and practiced the correct letter formation for the letters m, s, a, d, and t. We will be practicing these over the following weeks, and learning new ones.

We have continued to learn the story of 'The Gingerbread Man', and this week the children have enjoyed swapping some of the characters to create unique versions of 'The Gingerbread man'.

Here are some of the other learning opportunities the children have had:

- \*Drawing their own Gingerbread man story maps and story events.
- \*Creating gingerbread men from a variety of resources – junk modelling, paper, painting, playdough.
- \*Creating a bridge in the outdoor area for the Gingerbread man to get safely across the river.
- \*Role playing the gingerbread man story in the indoor and outdoor areas – including some character changes!
- \*Developing their use of space in the large hall during their PE lesson.

The children are regularly creating models in the Creative area during the day. It would be really useful if recyclable materials such as kitchen roll tubes, empty boxes, clean plastic drink containers, clean yoghurt pots could be brought into school for children to use.

We are beginning the Reception 'Reading Challenge' this week. One of our homework expectations is that we ask the children to read at least five times a week at home – this does not necessarily mean **them** reading at this stage, but sharing a book with you. Books from home can be included in this.

Please sign your child's reading diary every time you read with them. This will 'add up' to their reading challenge score each week. We display the reading challenge in the classroom, and give stickers to those reading five or more times each week, so children can celebrate their reading



The *Active Learning* Trust



efforts at home. Each half term we have a celebration assembly where we celebrate the home reading children have completed over the half term, with stickers and certificates.

Many of you will have received your Tapestry activation email. Gusford Nursery parents should find their child's account is ready for use as normal. If there are any Tapestry related problems please talk to your class teacher in the first instance, and we will look into it. It is our intention to have a 'Tapestry Clinic' after school on Monday the 2<sup>nd</sup> October in the Caterpillar classroom, to support those new to Tapestry, demonstrating how to add an observation from home.

Mrs Race  
Mrs Clifford  
Miss Collins  
Miss Lloyd