



## Wren Class Newsletter - Week Beginning 28/09/2015



This week we have been continuing to base our literacy work around the story 'Mog the Forgetful Cat'. We have been looking at all the different scrapes that Mog gets into in the stories and we have been writing our own class Mog story. The children have contributed some fantastic ideas and pictures and used their sounds to begin to sound out words for us to write. In maths we have been working on the number that is 1 more and 1 less. We will be letting you know our focus sounds for the week in next week's newsletter. We would encourage you to use the letter formation sheets sent out a few weeks ago to help your child to practice writing the letter sounds.

Thank you to everyone who sent in photos again this week. We used the photos to talk about how we have grown and changed since we were babies and we tried to match the baby photos to the children! We also talked about how we will grow into adults and that what we can do will grow and develop as we get older. The children really enjoyed sharing what they would like to be when they are grown up!

This week we had a Scottish day on Thursday and we spent the day finding out about all things Scottish. We are spending a day a week focusing on the 4 countries of the UK so the children learn some simple traditions associated with the country and have a greater understanding of things like the capital cities, the flags, symbols and some geographical features. This week we had a great day making shortbread, designing our own tartan pattern, creating our own Loch Ness monsters using clay and trying to describe what Nessy might look like!

Next week we will be spending a day focusing on Wales. If you have any resources, ideas, artefacts or pictures from Wales then please send them in with your child. We are also looking for a volunteer who can speak simple Welsh to come into school on Thursday to teach the children a few simple words of Welsh. Please can you let us know if you can help or know someone who can.

### *This Week's Home Learning Challenge: length*

This week we began to talk about length and measure as we cut our pieces of paper and ribbon to make our tartan fabrics. We also talked about how long our Loch Ness monsters were and compared our monsters with our friends.

We would like the children to follow this up at home. We would like your child to use a piece of string or wool to do some measuring. With your child decide on a length of string to use - we would like them to use their body to help them decide which length of string to use. E.g. the string could be the length of their arm, leg, knee to ankle, elbow to wrist, length of their spine, or even their whole body.

We would like the children to find objects around the house that are longer than and shorter than their piece of string. Please take photos, draw pictures, scribe ideas of what your child finds and send them in.

If you have play dough at home then a great activity might be to make different wiggly worms of different lengths. Challenge your child to order their wiggly worms by length and talk about the different thicknesses of their worms.

Please model, explain and encourage your child to use the following vocabulary:

length, width, height, depth

long, short, tall

high, low

wide, narrow

deep, shallow

thick, thin

longer, shorter, taller, higher... and so on

longest, shortest, tallest, highest... and so on

### Can you help?

Does anybody have any pumpkins, unusual vegetables, ears of corn or anything that we could use to stimulate and excite the children in a Harvest display? We will be looking at the theme 'Harvest' and the church Harvest Festival the week beginning the 12<sup>th</sup> October 2015 would like some Harvest items to include in the display. This year we are trying to encourage the children to contribute more to our theme displays and to bring in things to share and talk about. If you have any resources, ideas, books or artefacts to contribute then please send them in when you can.

Thank You