



Powerstown Educate Together NEWSLETTER 19

Thursday 9th February 2012

School Photographs

The PTA have organised for a professional photographer to come to the school on Tuesday, March 20th. The photographer will take individual and group photographs of the children. More information will be sent to parents closer to the date.

Official Open Day

The date for the official Open Day is April 22nd. We are asking that all parents and children attend school on this day.

The children will do an outdoor performance (weather permitting). There will be face painting, puppet show, a magic show, a cake stand and food. If parents/friends have any suggestions on activities for the day or can support us please let Helena know. We will send out a detailed letter next week, with an action plan looking for volunteers and parent support.

GAA

GAA is on tomorrow. Please ensure children are wearing runners and tracksuits.



English

We are making great progress with our blending. We are continuing to blend 2 letter, 3 letter and 4 letter words. We are practising our cursive letter formation. We are practising our cursive writing in our handwriting books. We are also learning the dolch words - high frequency words that appear in texts. Children are doing "word tests",

whereby the teacher calls out a word and the children write it down. All children are making great progress. Please continue to practice the word lists and letters with the children. It is greatly assisting their progress.

We are also doing our weekly First Steps writing. This term we are focusing on Narrative Writing and are currently looking at the rhyme Little Miss Muffet.

Maths

This week in maths we were looking at sets. We made sets of 2, 3 and 4. Children compared different sets, without counting. Children also participated in counting games, ensuring they know the number before, the number after digits between 1 and 10. Children are encouraged to explain how they made a set, and are encouraged to explain their answers when comparing sets.

SAILS READING SCHEME

8 children have now received their second SAILS reading book. Parents please remember that this is an INDEPENDENT reading programme for the children. Children are encouraged to read their story every night. There is a guide for parents (instructions on how to help your child) on the inside of the back cover of EVERY reader.

There are also 2 worksheets per word that the children must complete. Each worksheet is dated. It is important that the children complete the worksheets on the correct DATE. Worksheets reinforce words of particular books. For example

if your child is reading the "a" book, he/she must complete the "a" worksheet. If your child is on the "the" book, he/she must complete the "the" worksheet.

Please remember to promote cursive writing!!

8 children have also received their FAIRY TALES book. Please look inside the front cover of the fairy tales book for "during reading activities" and inside the back cover for "after reading activities".

Please remember to bring in books every day. Thanks ☺



Learn Together : Spring

The children are continuing to learn all about Spring.

Children are learning all about trees in Spring. They can identify the bark, the buds and the leaves. They also understand that leaves start to grow in Spring, but trees do not fully blossom until Summer. We have also learnt about spring flowers including daffodils.

Valentine's Day:

Children are also being introduced to Valentine's Day. Valentine's Day, is a holiday on February 14th celebrating love and friendship. Many people give cards called valentines to people that they care about and sometimes candy and flowers are exchanged, too!

Frásaí na Seachtaine

Frásaí na Seachtaine this week is
An bhfuil sé mór nó beag? (Is it big or small)

Tá sé mór / beag (It is big /small)

Strangers

Last week we introduced the concept of strangers to the children. We learnt the following rules.

1. Say NO!
2. Get Away
3. Tell someone.

We participated in role play exercises e.g. child being asked to go to the shop with someone to get sweets, a child being offered a lift, a child being offered treats/ice cream.

It's important to stress that most strangers are nice people, at the same time, there are rules children should always use with strangers. We would appreciate if you could discuss with your child how he/she should respond to a stranger.

Vaccinations

Most children received their vaccinations yesterday. Children were very brave!

If your child did not receive their vaccination, it is important that you take him/her to your G.P. to get the 4 in 1 injection & the MMR Booster injection. Please inform your GP that your child did not receive the vaccine because he/she was sick / absent on the day the HSE came to the school.

REMEMBER

MID TERM BREAK NEXT
THURSDAY & FRIDAY:
SCHOOL CLOSED
THURSDAY 16th &
FRIDAY 17th