

Thank you for all of your support at home with learning lines for the nativity. Please continue to rehearse at home and try saying the words loudly, clearly and with expression. 😊

This week in Poplar Class we have been:

- learning to skateboard. Skateboarding is going to be the next Olympics and we all had a go at learning some basic tricks – it was very exciting and we were all very tired after.
- Writing invitations and writing stories about our monster – these are fantastic and we are really looking forward to reading them to Maple Class.
- In Maths, Year 1 are learning to subtract (using objects, up to 30)
- In Maths, Year 2 are learning to divide by sharing objects and writing the related number sentence. For example, if I have twelve carrots and I share them equally/divide between 2 children, how many carrots will each child have? $12 \div 2 =$
- We are focusing on reasoning in Maths in every lesson and asking children to explain and prove how they worked out their answer. This shifts the focus from getting a “right or wrong” answer / attitude to maths and ensures children really understand what they are learning. This also allows the children to work out where/if they have made any mistakes and how to correct them.
- thinking about how the brain is similar to a muscle and that you need to put in effort to keep learning. We’ve also been learning about the ‘magic of mistakes’ - thinking about how mistakes help us to learn <https://ideas.classdojo.com/f/growth-mindset-1> (look at this website to watch the video clips that have been helping us to understand this). We revisited the ‘power of yet’ and thought about how rather than saying ‘I can’t do that’ to say ‘I can’t do that YET’ and to find a way to learn.
- Year 2 are learning to use coordination (and, or, but) and subordination (because) to extend sentences
- In Phonics, group 2 have been learning the phase 5 sounds - wh, ph, ew, oe and tricky words – said, asked, have, could, like, so. Group 1 have been learning the phase 3 sounds ai, ee, igh, oa and tricky words - the, was, go, to, I, no.

To support your child at home you could:

- Write a reply to your child’s Nativity invitation and ask them to bring it in to school
- Year 1 - have a go at subtracting using objects. For example, ‘If I have 5 sweets and I eat 3, how many sweets do I have left?’ or ‘If I have 20 pieces of Lego and I use 15, how many do I have not used?’ Can you explain why I have (2) sweets left? Prove it to me (e.g. for the sweet question have 5 sweets and put 3 to the side – or eat 3 – and count the rest)
- Year 2 – have a go at dividing using objects (I have 10 sweets and I want to share them between 5 people, how many sweets will each person get?). Explain the reasoning. Prove the answer.

Useful dates Watermill Theatre – Wednesday 29th November

Oak and Poplar Nativity – Tuesday 5th December

Stay and Play – Thursday 14th December

Please keep checking our ‘Poplar class’ page on the website for photos/ updates of what we have been learning about! <http://www.st-blaise.oxon.sch.uk/category/poplar/>