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Foundation & Year One
Newsletter

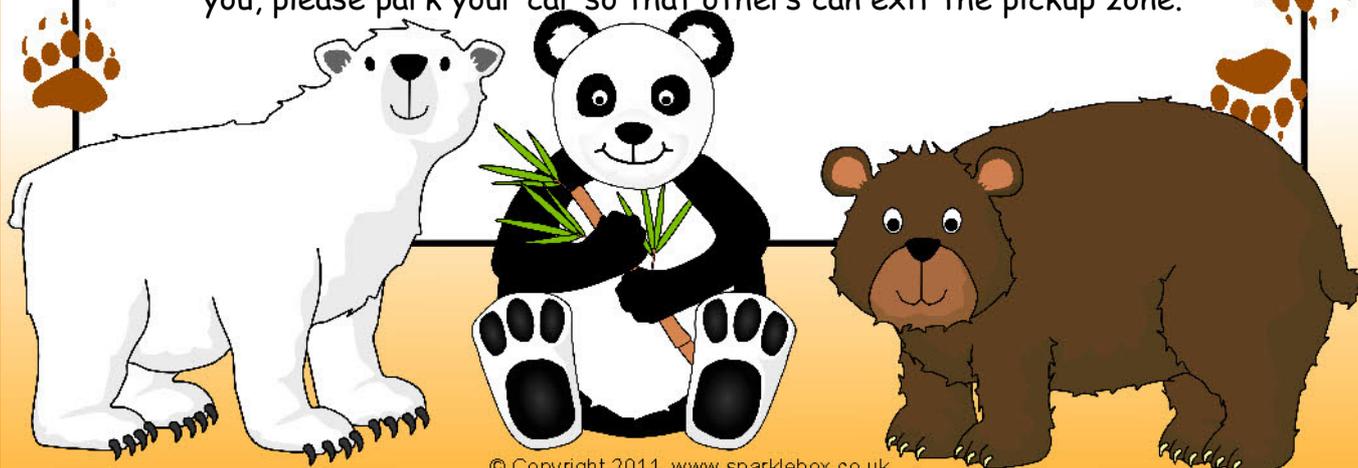
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Helping at School

If you wish to volunteer at school or accompany us on excursions through the year you are required to have a police check. This is to protect you and the students in our school you will be assisting. Police checks for volunteers are free and can be downloaded from the SAPOL website. You will need our Volunteer Organisation Authorisation Number which can be obtained from Fi or Sonya at the Front Office.

Student Drop Off and Pick Up Zone

Staff supervise this area, outside the Anchor Room, from 8:30am to 8:45am and from 3:10pm to 3:15pm each school day to assist parents and caregivers who wish to drop children off in the morning and pick them up in the afternoons without stopping or getting out of cars. Please enter through the northern driveway, the entrance and exit signs are clearly displayed, stopping where the teacher is on duty. Please do not overtake cars in the line. If you are waiting for your child in the afternoon with others behind you, please park your car so that others can exit the pickup zone.



English

This term the Foundation students have learnt the first four groups of Jolly Phonics sounds. Please help your child revise and practise these sounds at home each school night and over the holidays. Our aim is to have them able to write a sound that you say with the correct formation and to be able to read a written letter sound. Once they are confident doing this, students need to practise blending sounds to read and write words. The words on each page of their letter sound book are ideal for doing this.

Year One students have been revising long and short vowel sounds and spelling rules this term. They should be able to read and spell all of the Jolly Phonics 42 letter sounds. They should also be able to remember and use the following spelling rules:

- We often have double consonants after short vowel sounds.
- In short words with a short vowel sound followed by a /k/ sound we spell the word with a <c> and a <k>.
- Long vowel ee at the end of a word is often spelt with a /y/.

We have also learnt about 'hop over' vowel sounds (also known as magic e or silent e) as in the words game, eve, side, nose and cube. The holidays are a great time to spend short amount of time practising these skills.



Mathematics

Our Foundation students have been working on reading, writing and making groups of numbers up to ten. It is important that they can recognise written numbers up to ten and accurately make groups of numbers up to ten. You can reinforce this at home by asking them to help you count when setting the table, helping with cooking tasks or working outside in the garden or on the farm. Board games and card games are also great ways to reinforce these concepts.

Year One students have been working on understanding the components of larger numbers and counting in tens. We have practised making larger numbers by identifying how many tens are part of the number. For example 53 is made up of five tens and three ones. We have also practised counting in tens from a given starting point. For example start at 40 and count to eighty. How many tens did you count? You can support your child at home by getting them to count large collections by making groups of ten. Talk about why it is easier to count in tens. Count in tens from different starting points. For example from 23, 45 or 15.

Physical Development

When children start school, most children can manage everyday living skills such as dressing, toileting, cleaning teeth and eating. They have also usually developed good hand-to-eye coordination and can cut along a line with scissors, colour drawings between the lines and draw pictures with increasing detail. To help your child



feel confident to do the tasks they need to do for themselves at school, it is important to encourage them to have-a-go at most tasks with supervision as required.

Physical skills such as climbing, balancing and kicking, along with threading, holding pencils, accurately hitting keys on the computer are all important to your child's school life and learning. To support your child's physical development some suggestions are listed below:

- Make some time for outdoor play everyday.
- Provide bats and balls and play games with your child to help them develop sporting skills for later on.
- Provide pencils, crayons, paints and paper for drawing and painting.
- Provide materials such as blunt needles and buttons to thread and kits such as Lego to help children use their small muscles.
- Find playgrounds that are increasingly challenging.
- Provide some time with computer games that improve hand-to-eye coordination and fine motor skills.
- Organise swimming lessons for your child.
- Check that your child can see well (both close up and long distance.)
- Ensure that your child can speak clearly and hear well.

Yours in Christ,
Sue Denholm

