Parents of children in Classes FKS/FCS Monday 21st January 2019

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! Your children have arrived back with smiling, happy faces and ready to begin a new term. In order to keep up to date with the children’s curriculum developments, we hope you will find the following information useful.

Reading

As you are aware we had our reading meeting for parents last week. Thank you for those that attended, we hope you found the information and advice useful. If you were unable to attend, the presentation that Mr Smithers shared is now on the school website in the Foundation class page. Your child has started to bring home phonically decodable books in their book bags. Some children will have a ‘sounds and letters’ book which will reinforce the letters we have already introduced. If you look at the front and back covers of any of the books there will be lots of ideas for you to use at home. Please write a comment in the reading diary that we will provide you as this gives an indication to the teacher whether the book has been read or not. **There is no expectation for a child to complete a whole book in one sitting**, please indicate which page your child gets to in their reading diary as there may be opportunity to continue reading from this page in school. When commenting in the reading diary please indicate whether they were successful or had any difficulties.

Reading Army

A huge thank you to the impressive amount of people who have signed up for our reading army. If you or family members (grandparents etc.) have any spare time we would be grateful to have you in school listening to the children read, even if you can only spare the odd morning here and there. Our reading army time will be from 8:35am-9:00am every day. If you have signed up already then please start coming into school in the morning as soon as you are able to. If you are interested and are yet to sign up, then please speak with your child’s class teacher.

Maths

Within mathematics we are trying to give the children experiences of number and problem solving in as many different environments and contexts as possible. When at home please recognise and notice different numerals in places such as front doors, remotes, t.v remotes, numbers on the clock. Talk about problems that involve amounts such as; Max has 7 Pokemon cards, he finds one, how many does he have now? There are four meatballs on a plate, Sophie eats one, how many are left? Etc. Enjoy learning together and talking about the work around you.

Below are some key dates for this term:

**Tuesday 26th March** - Parent Sharing Evening

**Friday 29th March** – PTA Infant Disco

Lost and Found

The children have started to use the story ‘Lost and Found’ as a stimulus to learn about arctic animals and snowy habitats. The children will soon be creating their own boats to help the penguin from the story float across the sea. We will be testing these boats to see if they float afterwards. If you have any recycled materials such as butter containers, yoghurt pots etc. that you think may be useful please could you send them into school.

Lost Property

Please continue to ensure that all items of clothing that the children wear to school have their names in them, some names have washed away so please check to see whether it is easy to read. We always make an attempt to return the children’s jumpers/cardigans etc. to them at the end of the day. Naming clothes makes this far easier. Named PE kits will not be required until after Easter.

Haribo Sweets

It has come to our attention that some parents are concerned about their children eating Haribo sweets before and after school. We understand that your child may wish to celebrate their birthday with their friends by bringing in a treat on the day. There is no expectation for you to bring anything into school on your child’s birthday. Should you wish to however, please bring in an alternative to Haribo sweets if possible.

We regularly update our Twitter page; please search for @ElburtonSch on Twitter to follow the school.

Yours sincerely,

The Foundation Stage Team ☺