

The Downs Primary School and Nursery

The Hides, Harlow, Essex, CM20 3RB.

Headteacher: Ms Jeanette Allen

Telephone: 01279 445538 Fax: 01279 438482

E-mail: admin@downs.essex.sch.uk

Website: www.downsschool.com



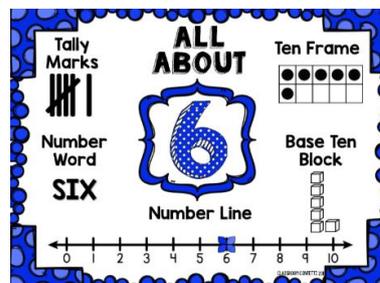
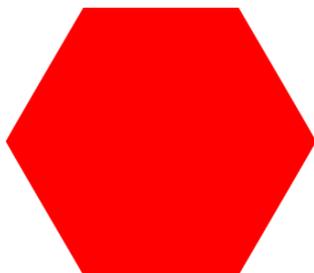
Mulberry and Holly Class Newsletter



Dear Parents/Carers

This week we have....

In Maths this week has been all about the number six and the 2d shape hexagon



Try these at home:

- Mulberry and Holly went to the shops. They bought a book, a ball, an apple, a cake, a pen and a hat. How many things did they buy altogether? Try drawing some pictures to help you work out the answer
- Have a look at a dice. You could use one from a board game or make one out of paper. Can you count how many sides it has? Can you find the side that shows six spots? Play a game with a grown-up. Take turns to roll the dice 6 times each, who can roll the most 6s?
- We have been looking at dominoes and playing a game in class. Use the printed paper dominoes or real ones if you have them, to play a game of dominoes. Instructions are included.



We have also been listening and singing along to Jack Hartman on YouTube, he has lots of great songs about counting and the children have enjoyed singing along.

Check out this online counting game.



<http://www.priorywoods.middlesbrough.sch.uk/files/resources/previews/bugz.htm>

Phonics

The first week back from half term has not stopped us learning new sounds. We have been very busy learning sounds that come at the start or at the end of words. The sounds we have been learning this week are h, b, l and ll, f and ff and ss. We have been remembering the rhyme that relates to certain letters which tells us that it is a digraph – ‘if it’s at the end it needs a friend’. Words such as hill, huff and hiss can be tricky to spell, but we have been remembering that if a word ends with a l, f or s it often needs a friend. We are now all getting more confident at hearing the sounds in words and writing these. We are learning that we write from left to right and we continue to perfect our letter formation. We continue to practise our name writing throughout the day and many of us are able to do this now.



At home

Practise writing letter sounds and making words using known sounds ensuring good formation

Help at home with daily routines such as writing shopping lists or name cards during family meals (this will also link to our new role play area which is a shop)

Create an alphabet book by drawing pictures or writing words that start with certain letters

Continue to read regularly to support word and letter recognition and to promote a love of reading and writing

Celebrations

Diwali



This week we have been celebrating Diwali. Diwali is the Hindu festival of light. We have been doing lots of activities to promote this including decorating our own Rangoli patterns and drawing mehndi patterns on printed hand templates. During carpet sessions the children have enjoyed learning about Diwali and hearing the story of Rama and Sita. The children have then verbally retold the story and wrote a sentence to go in their writing books.

Bonfire night

We have also been celebrating bonfire night this week. We have been doing lots of activities relating to fireworks including cutting and sticking our own firework rocket and making our own fireworks using chalks or paint. We have discussed about being safe during fireworks night and have talked about why we celebrate this day.

Remember to post what you get up to on Tapestry so your child can share with the class when they come back to school.

Kind Regards

The Reception Team