

FS & KS1 School Year 1 Newsletter

Week 12 ~ 28th November 2019

Theme: Autumn LeavesScience Topic: Seasonal Change and PlantsTerm 1.2 Learning Challenge: Can you feel Autumn?Week 11 Learning Challenge Question: What is Autumn like in Egypt? What sort of
trees are there in our school?

What is Autumn like in Egypt?

As we look at the seasons we have noticed that Autumn in Egypt isn't necessarily the same as in other countries. We wanted to know if the leaves on the trees at school will fall as we approach winter. We looked closely at trees in our school grounds to observe if any had begun to lose their leaves. We learned to describe trees carefully and in detail using the terms *trunk*, *branch, stem, twig, crown, root* and *blossom*.

What sort of trees are there in our school?

We learned that trees which lose their leaves are called *deciduous* trees. Trees that have leaves all year round are called *evergreen*. In our classes we have devised ways to observe various trees and plants in our school garden.

How you can help with our Learning Challenge at home:

Parts of a Tree labelling activity sheet.



English ~ Leaf Man

We have begun to explore a new story in our English lessons, *Leaf Man.* We used the wonderful, collage illustrations to introduce writing instructions - *How to Make a Leaf Man.*

Thank you for all the leaves that were brought to school! It really helped bring our story to life!

Phonics ~ *a_e, ay* and *ai* words

We are beginning to learn that there are other ways to write the sounds we already know - especially long vowel sounds. We have started with /ai/ learning that the sound can also be spelled a_e and ay as in <u>cake</u> and <u>play</u>. We also learnt to read and spell the common words: as, no, mum, one, them.
Homework: Practice your spelling words ~ see letter regarding spellings attached.

Maths ~ Addition and Subtraction

We have focused on **number bonds to 10** this week. As we begin to learn these number facts by heart we explore different ways to use the facts, such as in missing

number sentences, whole-part-part diagrams and simple word problems.

Homework: Number bonds to 10 activity sheets



Keep logging onto Mathletics for extra Maths practice!







Some trees at school have begun to change! What about near your house?



This week we have sent our first spelling lists home. Children in Year 1 love the 'grown up' feel of taking a weekly spelling list, however, it is important that parents understand the reasoning behind spellings in Year 1 so that it remains a fun and rewarding part of children's learning and does not become a 'chore'. Here are some points to keep in mind:

- Words in our spelling lists are chosen to practise the phonics focus of the previous week. For example, the words *tray* and *leaf* are included to reinforce learning the 'ay' and 'ea' sounds; giving children the confidence to try using these sounds in their writing. Children should be practising their 'sounding out' skills to spell the words, though some children will have memorised the spelling, which is fine also.
- **Teachers will discuss the meaning of words, however, Year 1 spellings are <u>not</u> vocabulary lists.** The type of spelling lists where children need to put words into meaningful sentences to show understanding will come later in their schooling. The first step now in Year 1 is for children to explore word building in a structured way and begin to identify simple, regular spelling patterns. For example the 'ai' sound is always in the middle of words - *rain, pail, stain*.
- Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check: This is the method we would like children to use when practising. Checking their own spelling is a very important **skill** as we begin asking children to edit their writing. Mistakes are fine as long as we learn from them!
- *** High Frequency Words (HFW's):** Some words (usually at the end of the list) will be marked by an asterisk (*). This indicates that they are High Frequency Words which children need to learn to spell correctly from memory. Some can be sounded out phonetically (*and, not*) and others cannot (*the, was*). After being sent home as a spelling word, we expect children to spell these words correctly and quickly in their writing across all curriculum areas.
- **Keep it fun!** Magnetic letters, whiteboards, iPads, flashcards, online games and board games (Scrabble!) are all ways to enjoy spelling practice. 10 minutes a day is more than enough to keep your child on track.

Communicate with your child's class teacher: If you have any concerns or queries please contact your child's class teacher for support and guidance



Spelling practice d⊛esn′t Ha∨e t⊛ Be B-0-r-i-N-G

Parts of a Tree

Can you label the parts of a tree?



leaf	branch	twig
bark	root	bud
I found this:		

Number bonds up to 10 – 10 (ten)

1 Find the pair to make 10.



2 Find the missing number to make 10 and write the addition or subtraction sentences for the diagram.



I found this:		
🙂 Easy	😰 Challenging	🐑 I needed help

Number bonds up to 10 - 10 (ten)

1 Bessie Baker baked lots of fail and made trays of 10. Marvin Muncher helped himself to the trays! Use a strategy of your choice to find how many fail Marvin stole from each tray. Write the subtraction number fact.





😰 Challenging

🙂 Easy

🕑 I needed help