

Hello everyone,

Hope you're all ok! This week we have been learning all about China! We've been finding out about where it is in the world, what languages they speak, what their money looks like and making lots of artwork/ crafts inspired by their culture. I hope you enjoy learning about this country as much as we have in school.

Maths: applying maths to real world situations

This week I'd like you to bake buns or a cake if possible- this can be as basic or as elaborate as you like for all the Mary Berry's out there. There is so much learning from following a recipe and this is an opportunity for the children to see how maths is used in real life. The children will practise number recognition and place value from reading the scales and explore capacity/ volume when measuring liquids and weight from the dry ingredients. Can they evenly share out the mixture or finished cakes? Can they say what the fraction is when cut into slices?

To support: encourage language of less/ more, recognition of numbers and what is equal.

To extend: the recipe makes 12 buns and there's 5 in our family, how many each? How many spare? How much would be needed if you were to double or halve the recipe? I'd love to see your creations, tweet the school account if you can!

If you haven't discovered already: BBC Supermovers KS1 has some great songs to help practise counting, telling the time and number bonds too. There are also songs linked to other subjects.

Reading: Traditional stories form other cultures

This is the story of the chinese zodiac. You could act out the story using puppets or toys, draw pictures to show the events in order or retell to your family. Watch it here: <https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=chinese+zodiac+bbc+story+kids&docid=608018002865752892&mid=23BD266F617176B0C9BD23BD266F617176B0C9BD&view=detail&FORM=VIRE>

Many years ago in China, the Jade Emperor wanted to measure time to work out how old he was. He decided to have a swimming race with different types of animals, so he could give a name to each year of the Chinese zodiac. The position each animal came in the race would decide which year was named after them.

The Emperor invited thirteen animals down to the river to take part but he only needed twelve for his zodiac.

The animals were:

**A tiger, a snake, a rat, a rabbit, a monkey, a dog, a pig, a cat, a rooster, a goat,
a horse, an ox and even a dragon!**

The animals were lined up for the race.

The Emperor explained that the winner would be the first one to have a year named after them.

The cat and rat realised that their swimming was not good enough for them to win. So they asked the ox if he could take them across the river. He agreed, as he was so kind.

The race started and the ox was soon ahead.

The ox was nearly on the other side of the river when there was a big splash! The sneaky sneaky rat had pushed the cat back into the water! Then, as the ox turned around to look, the rat jumped off his back and landed on the riverbank. The rat had won the race and the ox finished second.

Next came the tiger and he was soon followed by the rabbit, who had bounced across on stones and logs.

The next one to finish was the mighty dragon.

The dragon could easily have come first but he was too busy helping others across to the land.

The snake and the horse came sixth and seventh. The horse had been frightened by the snake and the snake sneakily raced ahead!

Then the Emperor could see a small raft arriving at the riverbank. The goat, monkey and rooster had worked together and arrived on the river bank safely. The Emperor was very pleased!

Just after them, two more animals arrived at the riverbank. The dog was one of the best swimmers but had taken his time by playing around in the lovely warm waters. The pig had been slow because he had taken a nap!

Although the Emperor now had twelve animals to use in his new zodiac, there was one animal still missing.

It was the cat!

The rat had pushed her off the ox into the water – which cats hate. So she went home, still angry with the rat and vowed that cats and rats would never be friends again!

Phonics: applying learning

Three phonics challenges are included at the end of the letter. Feel free to either select just one to focus on depending on which phase you are working at or complete all 3 as a way of recapping and applying. In phonics sessions and English we constantly visit and revisit all the phases so as to keep children's skills fresh.

English: research/ question posing

Can you research China? You could ask your family what they know about China, use the internet or books. BBC Geography KS1 has a great video introducing Shanghai.

If a person from China visited you now what questions would you want to ask them to find out about their life? My friend lives in China, I'd like us to think of some questions to ask him. I'll email him and hopefully we'll get a reply! Some of the questions we came up with in class are:

- How is China different to England?
- How do you understand people?
- Is it hot in China?
- Does China look like England?
- What is the food like there?
- What is the money like?

Don't forget your question words and a question mark. To support, children could ask the questions aloud rather than write them down. To extend: can they find some answers to their own questions through research?

DT: Making paper dragon kites

This week we've really enjoyed making paper lanterns, dragon kites, fortune tellers, practising writing in Mandarin and creating dragon puppets. It's a bit tricky for me to explain over letter how to make them all but I've included instructions for our favourite activity and a template: the dragon kite.

Chinese Dragon Kite Craft

You will need:

Long strip of coloured paper
(approximately 60cm long and
8cm wide)

Dragon Head Template

Lolly stick or string

Ribbon or tissue paper

Crayons or pens

Scissors

Glue

Glue stick

Sticky tape

Eco-glitter (optional)



Instructions

1. First, choose a strip of coloured paper. This will be the body of your dragon.
2. Fold small sections of the paper backwards and forwards to make a zigzag shape.
3. Decorate the paper strip using crayons or pens. You could add some eco-glitter for extra sparkle too.
4. Next, decorate the Dragon Head Template. You could use crayons or pens to make it bright and colourful.
5. Carefully, cut out the dragon's head and stick onto one end of the paper strip.
6. Cut some lengths of ribbon or tissue paper and use glue or sticky tape to attach on to the other end of the paper strip for the dragon's tail. You could add some on to the dragon's mouth too, as flames!
7. Then, use sticky tape to attach some string or a lolly stick on to the front of your kite.
8. Once the glue is dry, your dragon kite is ready to fly! Try taking it outside and watch the ribbon or tissue paper flutter in the breeze.



Miss you all,
Miss Walker

Phase 5 Home Learning Challenges

Look at the things around the room. Can you spot any words that contain any of these sounds? Can you hear the other sounds in the word too? Try writing some of them down.

ir aw ou ea ie

Play a game with your grown-up. Ask your grown-up to read a sound to you. Can you write the sound down? You could use different colours.

Can you read the digraphs on this page? How many other digraphs, trigraphs or split digraphs do you know that make the same sound?

ai ph
ea oe
ey u-e
ie

Can you put the sounds on this page into the phoneme frames to make words?

Can you spell out any of the pictures? Do all the words have the same number of sounds?

Can you underline any digraphs and join any split digraphs?



Can you look in a book and find any of these words? Which words did you spot the most times?

people
their
called
looked
asked
could

Phase 3 Home Learning Challenges

Look at the things around the room. Can you spot any words that begin with any of these sounds? Can you hear the sound they end with too? Try writing some of them down.

j v w y z

Can you put the sounds on this page into the phoneme frames to make words?

Can you spell out any of the pictures? Do all the words have the same number of sounds? Can you underline any digraphs?



Play a game with your grown-up. Ask your grown-up to read a sound to you. Can you write the sound down? You could use different colours.

Can you read the digraphs on this page and think of a word that includes each sound?

igh ow
air ar
ear sh
ure zz

Can you look in a book and find any of these words? Which words did you spot the most times?

he all
she are
we her
me was
be they
you my

Phase 4 Home Learning Challenges

Can you use the blends and clusters on this page to make some words in the phoneme frames?

Can you spell out any of the pictures? Do all the words have the same number of sounds? Is it an initial or final blend?



Play a game with your grown-up. Ask your grown-up to read a cluster or blend to you. Can you write the sounds down? You could use different colours.

Can you read the clusters and blends on this page and think of a word that includes them?

Can you make a word search using these tricky words? Can you read the words to somebody else?

said there little
like when were
do have what
come so out
one some

Look at the things around the room. Can you spot any words that begin or end with any of these consonant clusters? Try writing some of them down.

lf nch
dr scr
br shr
sp thr