

Thank you to everyone who was able to attend the art and D&T display in the hall, showcasing the children's efforts in the week. We hope you enjoyed seeing what all of the children have got up to!

This week we will be:

- Writing persuasive letters
- Learning and applying number facts
- Applying number facts in problem solving activities
- Learning about different parts of the UK e.g. countries and capitals
- Investigating plants in Science
- Playing a range of games in PE
- Following and creating sequences in Dance

### Maths

We are focusing on 'number facts', the application of these in calculations and problem solving activities over the next couple of weeks. These range from knowing one more or less than a given number, number bonds e.g.  $4 + 6 = 10$  or  $5 + 5 = 10$  and tables. While we have focused on the conceptual understanding of these, with different strategies and also concrete materials and number squares for the first half of the year, we're looking to consolidate this so children are able to confidently and quickly say the answer rather than working it out. This aids in mental fluency and arithmetic. We will be sending home different number facts for the children to practise at home, with the aim that they can apply them quicker in their calculations. Please encourage your child to practise these in short bursts, perhaps display them in their rooms and test them to see how quickly they can recall them.

### Overstone Playground

As a school, we are looking at improving our school playground for all of the children. As a Key Stage, we are allowing our children to take ownership in the process, by saying what they would like, but also by writing letters to local businesses to see if they might offer donations or help. Ideally, we would like to develop the existing playground with more play equipment and develop the area outside the KS1 block, so children can access it for their learning and also for break times. If you feel you can help in this process then please let us know.

### SpellingShed & Mathletics

We like to provide a range of different learning platforms for the children to access, either for homework or to continue their learning at home. These two websites will have allocated activities based around our current learning or they will have activities from which the children can select and complete. There are leader boards to provide an incentive for children to complete and practise their skills, but most of the time the children simply enjoy completing the games. We have noticed an improvement in the children who access these games regularly in their schoolwork, either in their spellings or their calculations. These will be available all the time for the children to access.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards,

The KS1 team