

Friday 17th January 2020

Dear Parent/Carers,

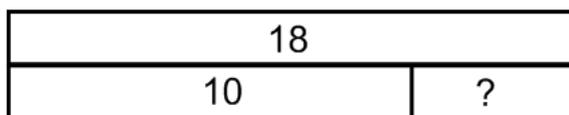
In our English lessons this week, we have invented our own countries. We started by drawing pictures of the food, clothes and climate in our invented country and put all of these ideas on a mind map. The mind maps then helped us to plan the layout of our information pages which we will continue to write next week. Thank you to those people who completed this for homework as it really helped the children to think of creative ideas!

The grammar focus for this week is being able to use an apostrophe to show possession (to show that somebody owns something) such as in the sentence *Ben's hat was lying on the floor.*

In Maths this week, we have used the inverse operation to solve missing number problems (e.g. solving $15 + ? = 24$ by doing the calculation $24 - 15 = 9$). These are the steps that we use when solving a missing number problem:

1. Write the number sentence.
2.  round the biggest number.
3. Put the numbers in the bar model.
4. If you need to then use cubes.
5. Thinking person. 

$$\triangle 18 - \square = 10$$



 $18 - 10 = 8$

At the moment, the numbers we are working with are small while we learn this new method but once the children are secure with the method, we will begin to calculate with 2 digit numbers (e.g. $? - 25 = 73$). Therefore it is important that even if they find the calculation easy, they can follow the method accurately.

In CCL, we have learnt the names of the seasons and which months fall in them. We learnt about seasonal changes and are going to keep a close eye out at the end of this term for signs of Spring appearing!

In indoor PE lessons this half term, we will focus on gymnastics. The children will use a variety of apparatus and build on the skills that they learnt in Year One. Even though it is cold, we will continue to do outdoor PE so please ensure that your child has jogging bottoms, a warm jumper or hooded top and trainers in school at all times. It would help if girls had a pair of socks to wear for when they have removed their tights. Some children are still struggling to tie their own laces. It is essential that they can do this independently from now on.

Many thanks for your support,

Mrs Haigh, Mrs Shaw and the Year 2 Team