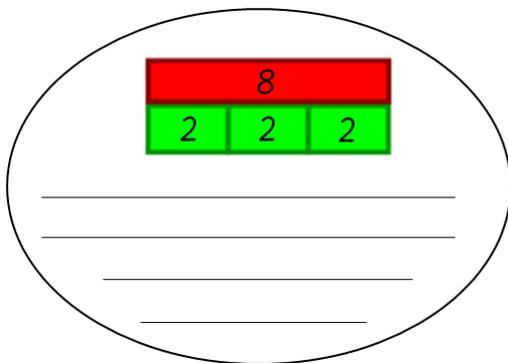


Dear Parent/Carers,

In English, each child has written a factfile about their invented country and we have been very impressed with the accuracy of the children's work. They were able to use their imaginations to include anything in their country that they wanted so we had some very exciting countries with chocolate rain, delicious food items and interesting clothing choices!

We have continued this week to learn about our next spelling rule when adding the -ed suffix to a verb. If the root word (the word you start with) ends in an e, you first remove the -e before adding -ed. This may seem silly as it seems more sensible to just add a -d but the rule also applies when adding other suffixes (e.g. -ing) so is important for the children to understand.

In Maths this week, we built on our understanding of equal and unequal groups and learnt how to represent multiplication in many different ways by drawing money, Numicon, bead strings, real life examples and bar models. We have also started to explain how we know whether a picture does or does not show a multiplication.



e.g. *This bar model does not show 4×2 because there are 3 groups with 2 in each group but there should be 4 groups.*

One key aspect of Maths is fluency. It is important for children to have a range of number facts at their fingertips which they can use flexibly to help them solve problems and calculations. These range from addition and subtraction strategies (e.g. doubling, number bonds to 10/20/100, near doubles, number bonds within all numbers to 10 etc) to multiplication and division facts. Here are some useful websites to help develop fluency in maths when recalling facts such as number bonds to 10/20 and times tables:

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/daily10> (choose Level 2 to begin)

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>

In addition to these tools, White Rose Maths Hub have released a new, free app called "One Minute Maths" which is suitable for devices running Android and IOS. It is aimed to help children in Reception and Key Stage 1 develop their addition and subtraction fluency skills and to recognise key facts quickly. Many of the key facts practised on the app are key for children in Year 2 to have automatic recall of. Feel free to download the app from the App Store and use this as an additional tool at home to support your child's mathematical development.

This week in CCL, we have kept a weather diary. Each day, we have observed the level of cloud cover, the amount of rain, how sunny it has been and whether it has been a windy or still day. We have also used a thermometer to accurately record the temperature. Our main observation was that the weather in the UK is extremely changeable during each week and on this occasion also **EXTREMELY** cold! Brrrr! What a chilly week!

Many thanks for your support,

Mrs Haigh, Miss Heneghan and the Year 2 Team