

## Dear Parents/Carers,

Our main priority this year is to improve literacy throughout the school. How are we planning to achieve our motto? "Aiming higher...." in this area.

Please read the information from Mrs Pacheco our Literacy Subject Leader on **Page 2.** **BJ**

## HOUSE POINTS

Week ending 19/10/12:-

- 1st Anderson - 255
- 2nd Mandela - 249
- 3rd Teresa - 205
- 4th Brunel - 197



## THANK YOU

1. To all our parents who attended our recent meeting regarding Halal meat for school dinner. (More details to follow in a separate letter)

## MATHS WORKSHOP

2. To the parents who joined Mr Diaz our Maths Subject Leader and Ms Hywel. From the feedback that was received we know that you enjoyed the workshops, and you learned a lot about the maths that is taught to your children. Due to popular demand, more workshops will be planned for the future.

$$19 + 35 = ?$$

## UNIFORM

If you have to buy new school TROUSERS for your child, **PLEASE** only buy grey ones which is the **CORRECT SCHOOL UNIFORM.**



## COATS

Please make sure that each day you provide your child with a suitable coat or jacket.

## SPECIAL DATES

**WEDNESDAY 24 OCTOBER:** EID PARTY – Everyone is invited.  
- 3.15pm - 4.30pm in School Hall. Donations of food would be much appreciated.

**FRIDAY 26 OCTOBER:** SCHOOL CLOSED – TRAINING DAY.

**HALF TERM:** MONDAY 29 OCTOBER – FRIDAY 2 NOVEMBER 2012

Children return to school on **MONDAY 5 NOVEMBER 2012**



## **AIMING HIGHER IN LITERACY**

**Mrs Pacheco**

**Our** aim this year is to improve Literacy throughout the school. We are aiming to raise standards in writing and continue to have high expectations of all the children. To achieve our aim, we are focusing on teaching grammar and punctuation explicitly. Vocabulary will also be developed by providing the children with new and exciting words. We would welcome your support in helping us develop a reading culture in our school. Phonics is taught throughout the school to help children sound their words out. We have ordered a new reading test, which will provide the teachers and parents with their child's reading age.

**Books** will be sent home every Monday, Wednesday and Friday and children will also have the opportunity to bring a library book home once a week. We are encouraging the children to read a range of fiction and non-fiction books. Our results show that last year our boys did not attain as well as girls in Literacy. Therefore we are trying to encourage our boys to read a wide range of texts including newspapers and comics that interest them. It is important that your child shares a book with you and reads to you each day. Could you please complete the reading record book. This can be a short comment, an initial or just a smiley face; teachers do the same so there is some consistency. During this term, the teachers will be designing exciting new reading corners for their classroom. Each corner will have a theme and our goal is to further the children's enjoyment of books, and introduce them to different authors, and non-fiction books.

**Handwriting** is taught through the Nelson scheme of work. The scheme helps children to form letters correctly and then join them up. Children should be thinking about their handwriting and presentation when writing in any book, including their homework book. When a child can join their letters correctly they will be given a 'pen license'. This means that they can write with pen in all their lessons. If children are struggling with their handwriting, they will given handwriting homework.

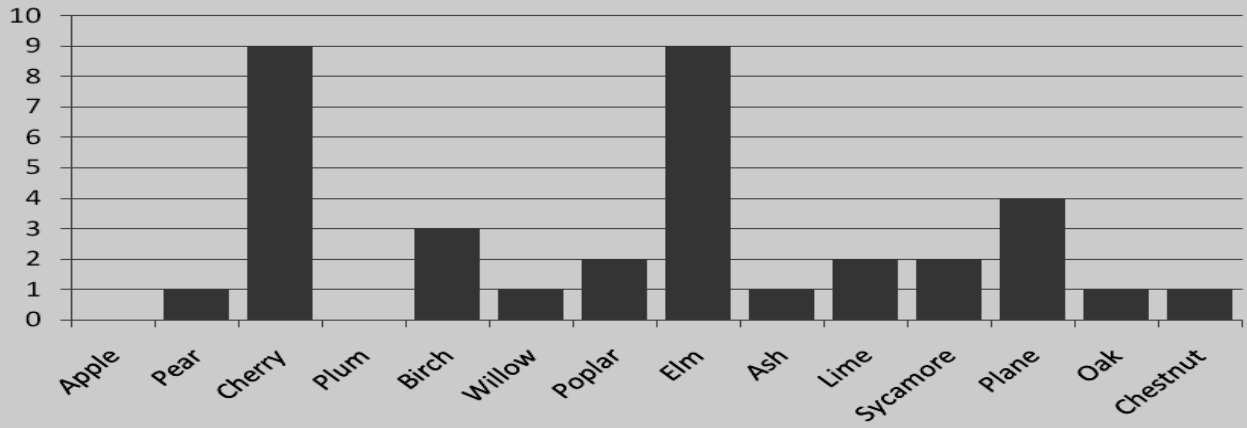
**Spellings** will be sent home each week, and the children will be tested once a week. Children should be encouraged to use the spellings in sentences, because this will also help their comprehension skills and increase their vocabulary. We are implementing 2 new Literacy programmes this year. The Nelson comprehension scheme will begin in the autumn term and will help the children learn to read and comprehend different text. A programme called Read, write inc. will be implemented in the spring term. It will help the children to read using their phonics knowledge and will also help them to improve their writing.

**EAL** (English as an Additional Language), **SEN** (Special Educational Needs) and **G&T** (Gifted and Talented) children are catered for in each classroom. Teachers differentiate the work and provide resources that the children can touch and see to help their learning. EAL children are sometimes taught in small groups, in the afternoons to particularly help them with their speaking and listening skills. A new G&T club will begin during the Autumn term which will help them to make further progress.

**We** are now lucky enough to have a governor linked with Literacy. She will be visiting the school and watching the teaching of Literacy. She will also be ensuring that the school is providing a language rich environment throughout the school, and the children are making expected progress or better.

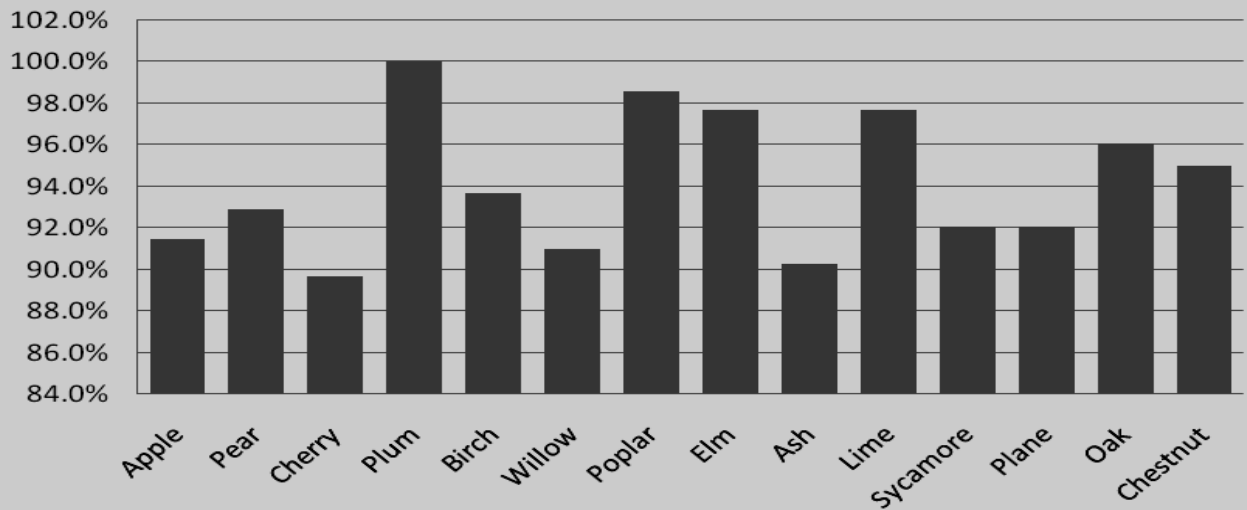
**Finally**, if there are any parents who would like to volunteer to help children with reading, we would really appreciate it.

**PUNCTUALITY GRAPH: W/B - 08/10/2012  
NUMBER OF LATES**



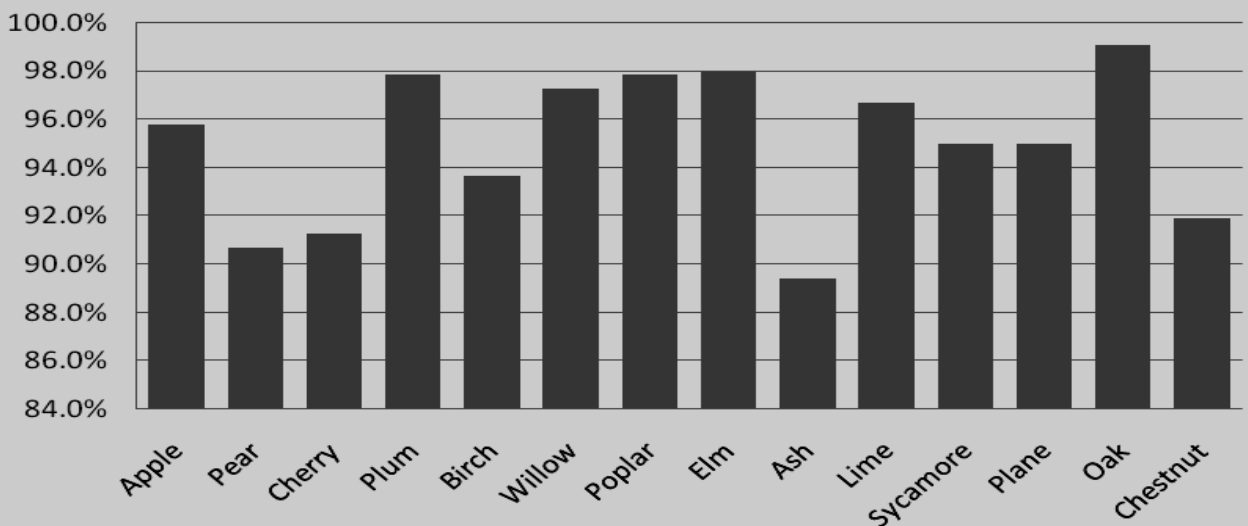
**WELL DONE PLUM (YEAR 1) AND APPLE (RECEPTION)**

**ATTENDANCE GRAPH: W/B - 08/10/2012**



**CONGRATULATIONS TO PLUM (YEAR 1)**

**ATTENDANCE GRAPH: W/B - 15/10/2010**



**FANTASTIC EFFORT OAK CLASS (YEAR 6)**