



Reception Newsletter - Week Beginning: 9.01.26



Term 3 Topic - What Happens in our World?

This week we have been learning about **Chinese New Year**, and the year of the Horse. In Reception we have learnt about how Chinese families celebrate the lunar new year, why there are 12 animals in the Zodiac, and we have even tried some Chinese food too! You must ask us about what we have learnt and enjoyed and look at some of our exciting photos too.

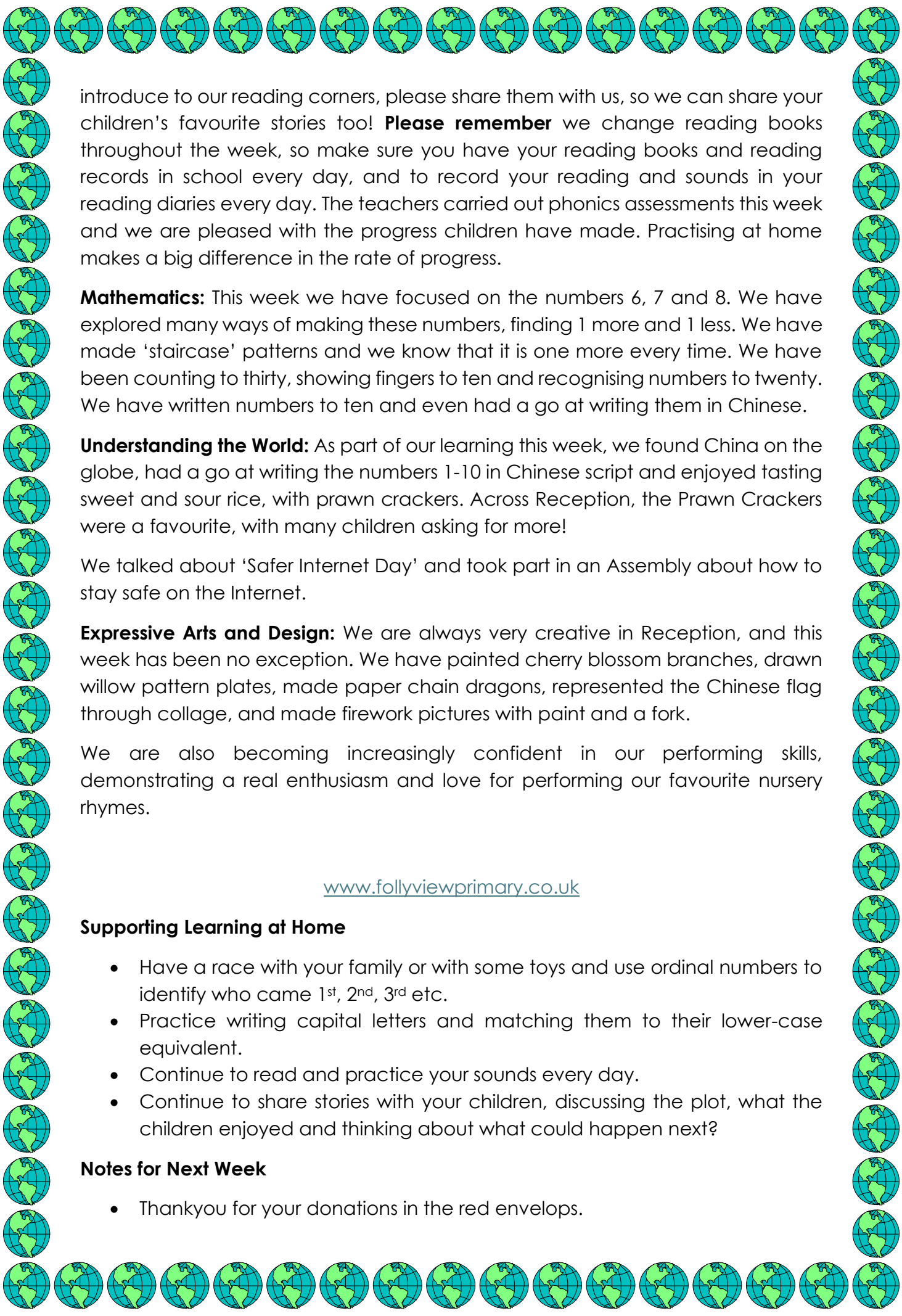
Personal, Social and Emotional Development: We have continued to focus on being resilient in our learning, daily routines and social environment, and are being 'Raj the Robots' as we don't give up. We are becoming increasingly independent with our learning and getting ready for outside time and PE. We continue to work together in a team, and we know what it means to be an 'Andy Ant'. Trying new foods this week saw lots of us having a go and being brave enough to try something new. We have completed another piece of our Jigsaw puzzle, focusing on the dreams and goals we have achieved and how we did it.

We talked about 'Children's Mental Health Week', what it means and how we can do activities and spend time with people special to us. We know that this helps us to be happy, calm and relaxed.

Communication and Language: We love talking and listening to develop our language skills, and we are becoming more confident in sharing our knowledge in large groups. We have retold the story of Chinese New Year, used animal masks to act out the race, and played in our role play areas.

Physical Development: We continue to improve our skills in balancing, climbing and ball games outside. We have played hockey this week and have enjoyed running around and developing our hand-eye coordination, alongside being 'Andy Ants' developing our team and sportsmanship skills in PE.

Literacy: We have really enjoyed learning the story of Chinese New Year and about how people celebrate it. We explored the language we could use to describe the sweet and sour rice, and prawn crackers we tasted. Lots of children liked the words 'crunchy' and 'crispy', and some mentioned how the crackers 'fizzled' on their tongues. We continue to practice our letter formation and Fred fingers at the writing table and used this week's word mat to practice writing the animals from the Chinese New Year story. We love the reading corner and sharing books with our friends! If you have any suggestions for new books we could



introduce to our reading corners, please share them with us, so we can share your children's favourite stories too! **Please remember** we change reading books throughout the week, so make sure you have your reading books and reading records in school every day, and to record your reading and sounds in your reading diaries every day. The teachers carried out phonics assessments this week and we are pleased with the progress children have made. Practising at home makes a big difference in the rate of progress.

Mathematics: This week we have focused on the numbers 6, 7 and 8. We have explored many ways of making these numbers, finding 1 more and 1 less. We have made 'staircase' patterns and we know that it is one more every time. We have been counting to thirty, showing fingers to ten and recognising numbers to twenty. We have written numbers to ten and even had a go at writing them in Chinese.

Understanding the World: As part of our learning this week, we found China on the globe, had a go at writing the numbers 1-10 in Chinese script and enjoyed tasting sweet and sour rice, with prawn crackers. Across Reception, the Prawn Crackers were a favourite, with many children asking for more!

We talked about 'Safer Internet Day' and took part in an Assembly about how to stay safe on the Internet.

Expressive Arts and Design: We are always very creative in Reception, and this week has been no exception. We have painted cherry blossom branches, drawn willow pattern plates, made paper chain dragons, represented the Chinese flag through collage, and made firework pictures with paint and a fork.

We are also becoming increasingly confident in our performing skills, demonstrating a real enthusiasm and love for performing our favourite nursery rhymes.

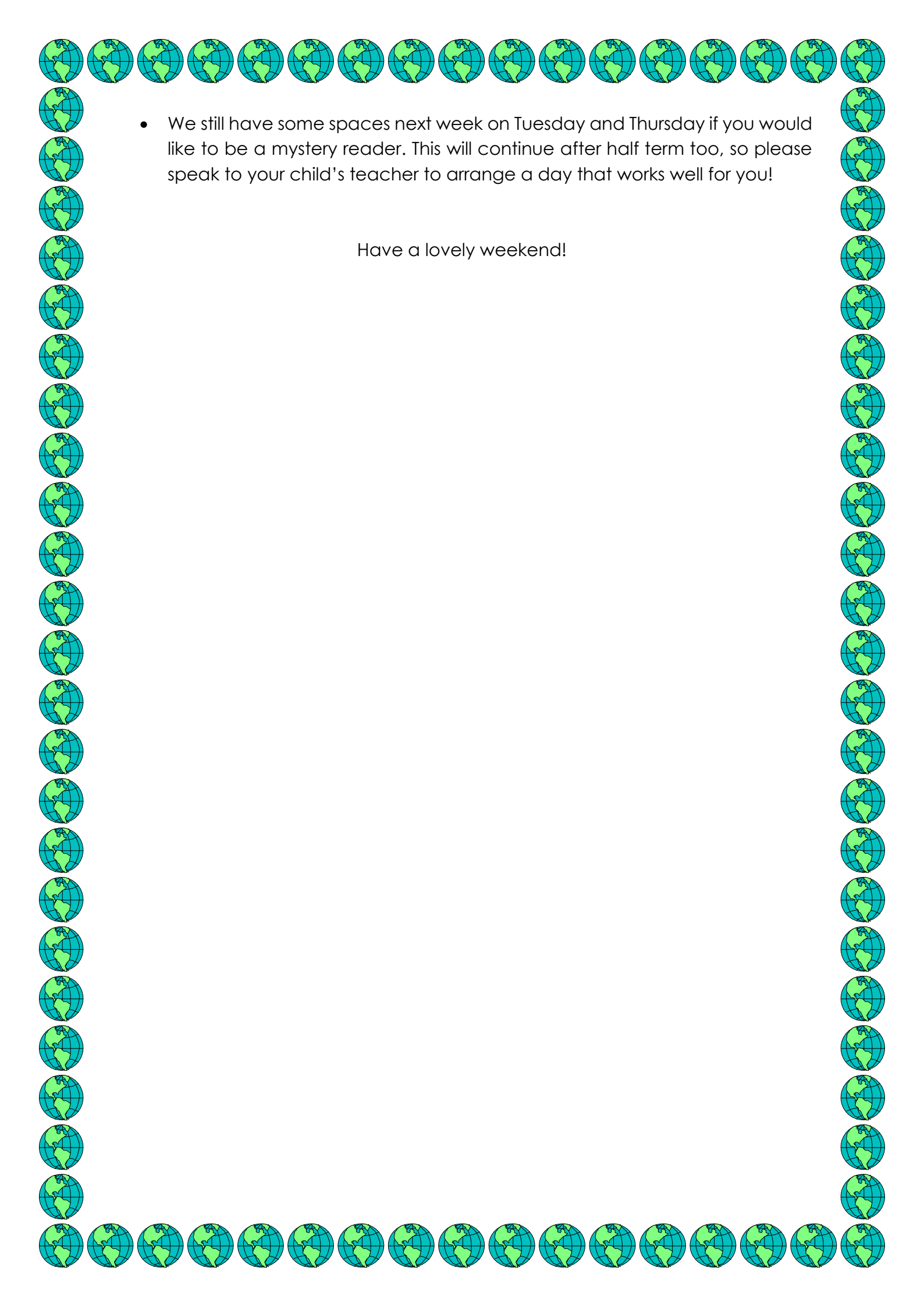
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Supporting Learning at Home

- Have a race with your family or with some toys and use ordinal numbers to identify who came 1st, 2nd, 3rd etc.
- Practice writing capital letters and matching them to their lower-case equivalent.
- Continue to read and practice your sounds every day.
- Continue to share stories with your children, discussing the plot, what the children enjoyed and thinking about what could happen next?

Notes for Next Week

- Thankyou for your donations in the red envelopes.

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- We still have some spaces next week on Tuesday and Thursday if you would like to be a mystery reader. This will continue after half term too, so please speak to your child's teacher to arrange a day that works well for you!

Have a lovely weekend!