



OIA news

Issue 4
22.10.2020

Dear Parent and Carers,

We made it!

I am so incredibly proud of all the amazing children (and staff) of OIA; they have embraced the start of the new school year with smiles on their faces and with resilience and determination. Having our school buzzing with the sound of children learning has allowed us to feel a little sense of normality in the crazy world we currently find ourselves in.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all again for your patience and support this half term. It has certainly been a tough time to step into the role of headteacher, but I can honestly say that the support I have received from everyone has been amazing.

We have some exciting things planned moving forward and we look forward to sharing these with you over the coming months. Tomorrow the teachers will be busy planning for our new and exciting curriculum which we will be launching after half term. It promises to be fun filled and engaging for the children and we will be sure to share this with you over social media and through our weekly bulletins.

After half term we would like to speed up our start and end times to the day so we are able to get started with our lessons a little earlier. We have so many exciting things to teach, we just need a little more time with the children in school.

We will now be working in 5-minute drop off windows as below:

Initial of surname	Arrival Time	Collection Time
A to G	8.40 - 8.45	2.50
H o O	8.45 – 8.50	2.55
P to Z	8.50 – 8.55	3.00

Please remember Kidz Club is now bookable online via ParentMail.

Please do stay safe over half term and enjoy some family time. If any of your children should receive a positive Covid test result over half term, please engage with NHS Track and Trace. Please also ensure you let us know at the start of next term, if your child/ children has or had a confirmed case over the half term period.

Five alternatives to trick or treating:

- Have a pumpkin trail in your street or neighbourhood... Help children carve or draw pumpkins and place them in your window. Neighbouring children can have fun pumpkin spotting. You could give your children prizes for the number of pumpkins they spot.
- Watch a Halloween film.... Even young children can enjoy some family favourites. MK Council is funding MyCinema throughout the October half term with 12 spooky drive in films shown. Thanks to council funding it costs just £5 per car with all proceeds going to MK Food

Bank. Films will be announced on 19 October on the booking site at mymiltonkeynes.co.uk/my-cinema

- Have a virtual trick or treat with friends and family... Arrange to be around in advance and share your costumes via video call or just share a spooky joke over the phone – every call made could mean a treat goes in the trick or treat bucket/bag.
- Have fun decorating your house... There are lots of templates and crafting ideas online.
- Have a Halloween scavenger hunt... Give children a list of Halloween themed decorations to look for on a walk, such as spiders, cobwebs or ghosts. Or hide treats around your house and set clues to find them.

If you have not seen our Harvest Festival, please check it out on our Facebook page. It will be available on the website shortly too.

We look forward to seeing you all with recharged batteries on Monday 2nd November.

With warm wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sarah Armitage', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

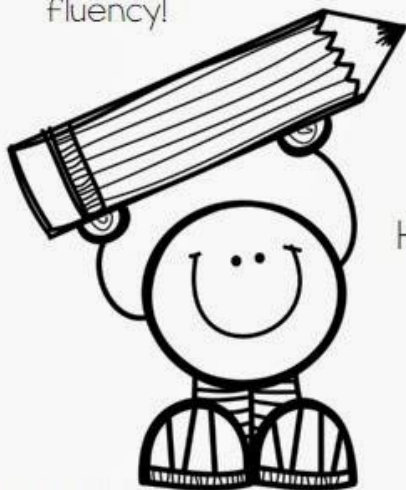
Sarah Armitage

15-20
minutes is
plenty for
a beginning
reader!



How To Read With A Beginning Reader:

- Encourage your child to use his/her finger to point to each word.
- Read a sentence and have your child repeat it.
- Take turns reading a sentence each or a page each.
- Talk about the story as you read it. What do you think will happen next? What does this story remind you of? How do you think this character feels?
- Don't be afraid to read the same book again! Repeated reading helps build reading fluency!



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Check For Understanding

- ✓ Start the book by making predictions. What do you think will happen in this story?
- ✓ Ask questions and make comments during the reading process.
- ✓ After reading a book, have your child tell you the events from the story in the correct order.
- ✓ What was the problem in this story?
- ✓ How did the character feel when...?
- ✓ Encourage your child to make connections. Does this story remind you of another book you read, an event in your life, a movie?



Read Books Online!

There are many fun and interactive websites for literacy.

Here are a few FREE online resources:

www.starfall.com

www.speakaboos.com

www.spellingcity.com

www.wegivebooks.org

<http://interactivesites.weebly.com>