



## Topaz News

### Learning

This week we have shared lots of facts about space and talked about non-fiction books in more detail. We have all written facts using our sounds and developing our sentence skills. Next week we will keep this going but start to introduce stories as well so making up stories at home would be a good way to support this learning. Pretend adventures also help so we have been on lots of those this week too!



In maths we have been developing our fluency with counting back and taking away. I attended a conference last week where they talked in detail about making such skills automatic by practising over and over and then applying the skills to lots of situations. It makes a lot of sense so keep going with counting forwards and backwards. It will help develop the strongest base for them as mathematicians of the future.

### Reading

Wonderful things are happening with our reading. We are continually listening to them read through the day in phonics and with their writing but I have also caught up with all of their individual reading books as well this week. Practising regularly really pays off so keep going with the high 5 challenge.

### Star Gazing

As mentioned last week we are planning a star-gazing evening on 2.2.2018. After spending some time thinking through the finer details, we have changed the plan slightly. Keeping siblings and families safe in the dark and cooking for you all seemed a bit of a challenge and we thought we might not get time to spend with our Topaz children. We now think it will be better for Topaz children if they come back to school either on their own or with a parent at 5.30pm. We will have a hot dog, play some torch games, drink hot chocolate and gaze at the sky. If it turns out to be cloudy we might have to rearrange the date so we are hoping that you can be flexible.

If anyone has a telescope or expertise with the night sky, please let us know.

We have produced some wonderful learning through this project and as we won't share it on that evening we would like to invite you to an **open afternoon at 3pm on 2.2.2018**

Many thanks for your support,

*Sally Windmill*