

Newsletter - 11th February 2020

Our News

The children have enjoyed another busy few weeks. They enjoyed Mr Redman coming into school to talk to them all about his years of living in the arctic circle in Norway. He brought in lots of lovely photographs and artefacts for them to explore. The children then had great fun learning to do various dances during our Chinese Dragon workshop day. They were brilliant when they performed in front of the rest of the school. The Ducklings were then lucky to have a visit from Rohana who came to talk to them all about her Muslim faith. They were able to think of some interesting questions to ask each of our visitors.

Thank you to those Duckling parents and carers who were able to attend the meeting about how we teach mathematics. We hope that you found it useful. Some of this information has been put on the Ducklings class page of the school website for you.



STARS OF THE WEEK



Jack McGreevy for his enthusiasm for challenges and persevering with his mathematics and Joshua Strickland for being a super Carleton child role model

Our Learning

We have been...

- Finding out about who celebrates Chinese New Year and how and why
- Listening to the story of the Chinese Zodiac
- Making Chinese dragons and penguins in our creative area
- Continuing to look out for different birds in our garden
- Pretending to celebrate Chinese new year in our home corner
- Exploring using chopsticks to complete a funky fingers challenge

Little Chicks have been drawing their favourite arctic animals, counting objects and matching them to the correct numeral and using different positional vocabulary to describe where a bear is, learning the Jolly Phonics songs for the letters m and n and using different tools safely to hammer 'nails' into blocks of 'ice.'

Ducklings have been writing facts about the Arctic and Antarctic, sorting and ordering objects according to their size and length, ordering numbers, using positional vocabulary to describe where something is and in phonics learning the phonemes ch, sh, th, ng, ai and ee and practising handwriting them cursively and blending to read words with them in and learning to read and write more of the tricky words - he, she, we, me, be, was and all.



Our Learning

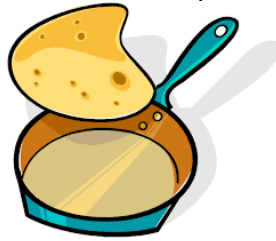
This week's learning will be all about Love, loving yourself and others around you. We will be reading stories such as Love Splat and Guess How Much I Love You? and talking about who and what they love and why. We will also make a love flower out of all of the things that they love. They will be using their funky fingers to scrunch up tissue paper

and decorate hearts. We will discuss how we are similar or different to our friends and to learn to respect each other's differences.

It will be Safer Internet Day, so we will discover more about how to be safe when we are using certain devices. Little Chicks will learn the Jolly Phonics songs for o and p. Ducklings will continue to learn the new phonemes igh, oa and oo.

This Friday we will be having a Visual Awareness Day in aid of charity. As part of this the children will try to find out more about what it might be like to be visually impaired and how they have to overcome their difficulties through listening to others and trying out some fun activities whereby we use blind folds to simulate what it must be like ourselves.

When we return from the half-term holiday, it will be Pancake day or Shrove Tuesday that week. We hope to make our very own pancakes (egg and diary free!) and to find out why this day is celebrated, how and why.



Reminders

All About Me Booklets

These booklets will be sent home later on this week. Please return the booklet about your child by Friday 28th February. Thank you.

Reading

As well as reading regularly (every night if possible!) please practise the letter and sound flashcards to help your child to retain their phonics learning, also playing the tricky word games to help them learn these new words.

Visual Awareness Day

Fun activities planned to raise money for charity, but also to make children more aware of the difficulties and challenges that others have to overcome. Come dressed to reflect who you are and donate £1.

Hair Accessories

Please can we ask that children wear just simple hair accessories for school. Thank you.

Little Chicks

The Little Chicks staff have asked if children could bring in a cardigan, jumper or hoodie to wear under their puddle suits, particularly during this very cold weather.

Snacks

Children are provided with a school fruit snack each day. They can also bring in another healthy fruit or vegetable snack if needed, but it is not necessary to bring in packed lunch boxes full with snacks. Thank you.

Fairy Cake Friday

Fairy Cake Friday has started up again and the Ducklings and Little Chicks day for bringing in cakes to sell is Friday 3rd April.

How can you help at home?

Little Chicks

Share stories together and talk about your favourite part of the book and why.

Look for numbers when you are out and about everywhere.

Make some pancakes.

Ducklings

Talk for Mathematics

Play skittles. How many did you have to begin with? How many knocked down? How many are left?

Count out some objects/toys at home. Ask your child to count them then tell them you are going to take some away.

Count the ones taken away and the total of toys left. Verbally say the number sentence, e.g. $3 - 2 = 1$

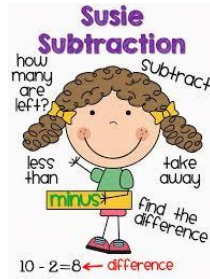
Find 1 less than a group of objects or a given number.

Sing some taking away songs such as Ten Green Bottles and Five Little Speckled Frogs.

Practise counting back from 20.

www.ictgames.com/numeracy

www.topmarks.co.uk



Talk for Reading and Writing

Practise any letters/sounds and tricky words that you are still unsure of.

Write sentences with the tricky words in or look for them in your reading books.

Practise writing the new sounds as we learn them and making sure that we use our cursive handwriting all of the time.

Practise writing words with our new sounds in such as night, coat, book and week. Try writing sentences with these words in, for e.g. At night I go to sleep.

Play the tricky words snakes and ladders games.

www.phonicsplay.co.uk

www.ictgames.com/literacy

www.phonicsbloom.co.uk

www.oxfordowl.co.uk

Talk for topic

Look on the school BLOG together and talk about what we have been learning this half-term.

Find out why some people celebrate Pancake Day.

Make Pancakes together and follow a simple recipe.

Try out and taste different toppings and find out which ones you like the best.

Dates for your diary:

Friday 14th February ~ **Love yourself Day** raising awareness of Visual Impairment - Charity fund raising day for VICTA - Non uniform day - Bring £1.00 - Come dressed to reflect who you are/what your hobby/interests are.

Half Term Holiday for one week.

Tuesday 3rd March and Thursday 5th March ~ Parents' Evenings 4-7pm

Our next newsletter will be on Friday 28th

February and will give details about all the fun activities we have planned for the next two weeks.

Any questions please don't hesitate to ring, email or come and see us.

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