

Newsletter - 16th October 2020

Our News

Well done to all of the Ducklings for an amazing first half-term at school! They have all settled brilliantly. It will be lovely to share how they have settled in, talk about their achievements so far and their next steps of learning at the forthcoming parents' meetings. Thank you for signing up for your parents' meetings. Your class teacher will be in touch via email with your finalized time shortly. On the evenings, we ask that you are patient with us, as this is the first time we have held parents' meetings in this way. We will have to stick to our 5 minutes time slots in order to be able to accommodate everyone on the evening. Thank you kindly, in advance for your understanding.

The last few weeks have been spent exploring the senses of touch and sight. We have enjoyed going on Autumn walks and looking at the changes that are happening to the world around us. We have three very friendly squirrels at the bottom of the field, that the children love to watch as they busily collect their acorns. They have loved collecting natural autumn treasures and using their sense of touch to describe them. They enjoyed putting their hands into feely bags and using their sense of touch to help them describe the mystery objects inside.

We have been printing with vegetables to make the different colours on autumn trees and collaging with crunchy leaves to make prickly hedgehogs.

We have enjoyed reading the traditional tale of The Little Red Hen and know it so well now that we can join in with the story telling too. Ask them to retell the story in their own words to you. They might also be able to sing one of the songs, with actions, about the Little Red Hen too.



STARS OF THE WEEK



Matthew Atkinson from Yellow Ducklings and Drey Palin from Brown Ducklings

Little Chicks

We have been...

- Sorting 2D shapes and arranging them to make pictures
- Finding different 2D shapes in the environment
- Listening to the sounds that words and objects begin with
- Drawing around autumn themed templates to develop our mark making skills
- Matching simple rhyming pairs through playing games and singing nursery rhymes

Ducklings

We have been...

- Finding 1 more and 1 less than a given number, using collections of objects to help us count if we need to
- Comparing different sized harvest fruits and vegetables and ordering them by their size
- Learning the letter names and their sounds for the letter p, i, n, m, d and g and beginning to read simple words with these letters in
- Writing about how some of our autumn objects feel and recalling what characters from The Little Red Hen story say
- Using puppets and story props to retell The Little Red Hen story in our own words



Our Learning

After half-term we will be learning about Bonfire Night, Remembrance Day and Diwali. We will talk about who celebrates and remembers these special occasions, how and why. In our home corners we look at how different celebrations might happen in the home.

We will then start a new topic 'Are we any better?' We will find out about how things were in the past and compare with what things are like today. A lot of the children have an interest in machines and robots so we will look at reading stories and information books around this theme.

In mathematics we will begin to look at 2D and 3D shapes, naming them, finding examples of them in the world around us and beginning to describe what makes them the shape that they are. We will also be building and creating pictures with the shapes.

Reminders

PE Kits

Please can all of the Ducklings make sure that their clean PE kits are returned to school on the first day back? **Every child will need a warm pair of joggers and a hoodie too.** PE has to take place outside until further notice in line with government guidelines. We are looking forward to the Fleetwood Town Team supporting us with our fundamental skills.

BLOG

Visit the school website and have a look at our class blog with your child. This is another way for them to share with you what they have been learning at school. You could write a comment together.



Home-Learning Pages

Don't forget to visit the Little Chicks and Ducklings home learning pages on the school website. These pages detail ideas and activities to be completed at home. Well done to those of you who have sent in photographs, via email, of activities that you have been busy completing.

Spare Clothes

Please can any clothes that have borrowed be returned to school and a change of spare socks/tights and underwear be placed in school bags in preparation for changes in the weather or if your child is prone to having 'accidents.' If you place them within a plastic bag, this will help us to return any mucky clothes to you too. Thank you.

WOW! Certificates

On our Ducklings class page there are wow moments that you can complete and email back to us when you see or hear your child doing or learning something amazing. We miss having lots of these on our 'Wow Wall.'

Mark Making

We have really noticed that our children this year love to draw and colour in, which is great for developing their writing skills. It might also be a low-cost idea for gifts such as Christmas and birthdays.

How can you help at home?

Little Chicks

Talk about special celebrations in your homes - Talk about how you celebrate special days such as Halloween, Bonfire Night and birthdays.

Keep practising being independent - zipping up your coat, doing up buttons, using a knife and fork, pouring your own drink, getting undressed for bed and so on.

Ducklings

Don't forget to use the activities on Education City to support your home learning too.

Talk for Mathematics

Use the number cards and activity ideas sent home previously to practise their number skills.

Look for the numbers 0-20 whilst out and about.

Practise counting on and back to and from 20.

Find the number that is 1 more or 1 less than a given number, use real objects to begin with and practising adding 1 more object or taking 1 away until they can do it more mentally.

Go on a 2D or 3D shape hunt at home and when you are out and about!

Order some objects from around the house according to their size/length. Use different comparative vocabulary - such as biggest, bigger, smaller, smallest, longest, longer, shortest and shorter.

www.ictgames.com/numeracy

www.topmarks.co.uk

Talk for Reading and Writing

Use the letter and sounds cards sent home to practise reading simple words and making words with these letters.

Practise writing these letters in sand, with chalk on the path or in the mud with a stick!

Look for these letters in books at home.

Listen for the new sounds at the beginning, middle and end of words.

Have a go at being Metal Mike! Sound talk words e.g. Can you touch your l-e-g?

Watch Geraldine the Giraffe (+ the letter/sound) - phonics clips and watch and sing the Jolly Phonics songs on YouTube for each letter.

Read, watch or listen to a Little Red Hen story together. How is it the same or different to the versions that they have read at school?

Draw and write their own Little Red Hen story.

Make or read a book all about Autumn.

For more reading suggestions - look on the Ducklings home learning page.

www.phonicsplay.co.uk

www.phonicsbloom.co.uk

www.ictgames.com/literacy

Talk for topic

It would be lovely if you could email in photographs of any celebrations that you have over the holidays such as a birthday, wedding, christening, Halloween or Bonfire Night. Then the children will be able to recall and write about these special times.

Talk about how to keep safe in the dark.

Talk about Bonfire Night Safety.

Visit the library and find some books about Diwali or research together on line.

Talk about any changes that have happened recently in their lives or family - a new baby arriving, getting a new pet, moving house, etc.

Dates for your diary:

School Reopens Monday 2nd November.

Tuesday 3rd and Thursday 5th November - Parents' Evenings via Zoom.

Friday 27th November - Flu vaccines

Monday 7th December - Christmas activities

Friday 18th December - School closes for Christmas

Monday 4th January - School reopens

Our next newsletter will be on Friday 13th November 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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