

Newsletter - 17th December 2018

Our News

We hope that you all enjoyed the performances of The Fairytale Land Nativity Show. The children really enjoyed performing for you and we are extremely proud of them all. They sang beautifully and were all so confident with their speaking parts. Thank you once again for all of the lovely costumes that you provided.

We hope that lots of you will be attending the carol service at Rossall Chapel tomorrow night. The children have been practising all of the songs, singing beautifully. It is always a lovely evening, but remember to wrap up warm! A big thank you to all of you for supporting our Christmas market and our Elf Run for Brian House. We sold lots of our Christmas crafts and have treated the class to some new toys for our next topic. We hope that Father Christmas will be able to drop in on our party day and deliver them to the children!



STAR OF THE WEEK



Rory Shepherd for his confidence and lovely expression when acting out the part of the Big, bad wolf in our nativity and Zach Chappell for being extremely brave and overcoming his fear of dogs when he met Romeo our school therapy dog.

Little Chicks

We have been...

- Reading all about the nativity story and sequencing it
- Dressing up as the different nativity characters
- Making Christmas cards and calendars
- Writing Christmas lists
- Doing lots of Christmas themed counting and number recognition

Ducklings

We have been...

- Reading, retelling and writing the nativity story
- Finding out who celebrates Christmas and why. Talking about how different families celebrate Christmas in their homes and what advent means
- Finding out about Christmas around the world in different countries
- Writing letters and lists to Father Christmas
- Estimating groups of objects and then checking by counting accurately
- Counting collections of objects and matching to the correct numeral
- In Phonics we have been carrying out assessments to find out which sounds and tricky words we know and to be able to break simple words down into their different sounds.



Our Learning

We have listened to the children's interests and have planned to start a new topic next half-term entitled, 'Once Upon A Time.' We will be learning through the theme of princesses, knights, dragons and castles! We will begin our topic with some traditional fairy tales such as Snow White and the seven Dwarfs and The Princess and the Pea. Look in the curriculum section of the school website for more information about our topic.

We will begin by looking in the 'magic mirror' and discussing what makes us special and our different talents. We will read different versions of the stories and use the familiar story language in our own writing.

In mathematics Little Chicks will be comparing numbers and saying when they have the same amount. The Ducklings will be using real-life objects to add two groups together to find the total.

In our creative learning we will be making our own crowns with patterns on and exploring how to play instruments in different ways.

The Ducklings will be starting to learn to identify and apply a new phase of letters and sounds in phonics.

Our outdoor learning will take on more of a seasonal theme based on winter, observing the changes to the weather and our garden and helping to look after the plants and animals throughout this time.



Reminders

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, refer to the phonics assessment sheet sent home in your child's reading record to see what it is they need to practise or are still unsure of.

Little Chicks and 2019/20 School Applications

Please remember to apply for your child's school place online at www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools by **15th January 2019**. You still need to apply, even if you have a brother or sister already at the school.

Little Chicks and Ducklings Christmas Party

We are going to have a Christmas party on the afternoon of Wednesday 19th December from 1.30pm.

If your child is in Little Chicks and does not normally attend the Wednesday afternoon session they are very welcome to join us for the party from 1.30pm and to be collected again at 3pm. Please let Mrs Stock or Mrs Richardson know in advance.

Please can children join in with the rest of the school and wear Christmas jumpers, along with their normal uniform.

They don't need to wear shirt and ties!

Puddle Suits, Wellies and PE Kits

These will be sent home for washing and to check the size. Please can you ensure that these are returned on the first day back to school?

Please can all Ducklings have a pair of warm jogging bottoms in their PE bags for doing outdoor PE in the new year?

Many thanks.

How can you help at home?

Little Chicks

Read some different princess, knights, dragons and castle stories or information books together

Practise comparing different numbers/amounts and saying when they are the same

Play games with simple rules or turn taking games together over the holiday

Ducklings

Talk for Mathematics

Estimate how many objects are in a group and then check by counting, for e.g. how many red baubles on the tree, or apples in the fruit bowl.

Find the total of two different amounts by counting on, for e.g. 4 cars in the garage and 2 more join them. Now there are 4... 5, 6 altogether. Make sure your child understands a range of vocabulary such as add, makes, totals, altogether, equals and plus when doing practical adding with real-life objects. Make your own addition number stories up, such as "I have 2 biscuits and Daddy gives me another one, so now I have 3 altogether."

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

Share some stories or information books about princesses, knights, castles or dragons. Bring in any of your favourites in to share with the class.

Keep a Christmas holiday diary to bring in and share with the class in the new year!

Write a thank you letter to Santa or a family member for your gifts

www.phonicsplay.co.uk

www.ictgames.com/literacy

www.phonicsbloom.co.uk

www.oxfordowl.co.uk

Talk for topic

Think about a promise or a wish for the New Year

Talk about which is your favourite fairy tale character and why

Dates for your diary:

Tuesday 18th December ~ Candlelit Carol Service at Rossall from 18:00 for all our children and families to enjoy a magical evening. All welcome!

Wednesday 19th December ~ Christmas Jumper Day with Christmas Lunch served in school. Little Chicks and Ducklings Christmas party at 13:30

Friday 21st December ~ School closes for the Christmas holidays at 14:30. Please note there will be no after school club on this day

Please can any Little Chicks who wish to be collected earlier (when school finishes) please let a member of staff know.

Monday 7th January 2019 ~ School re-opens at 8.55am



On behalf of all the staff we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and wish you all a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year!
See you all in 2019!

Our next newsletter will be on Friday 18th January 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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