



Newsletter - 18th December 2020

Our News

We hope that you all enjoy watching the virtual carol service which can be found on our school website. It has been lovely to come 'together' as a school to do this! A very big thank you to Mr Boyd who has worked very hard to put it all together.

The children have had a lovely week this week, making party hats, enjoying party games and having lots of fun dancing during their party, a delicious Christmas lunch and watching the Jack and the Beanstalk pantomime.



STARS OF THE WEEK



Faye Blake, Rupert Williams and Theo Minns from Yellow Ducklings
Alfie Wagstaff, Elsie Blight and Eric Streetly from Brown Ducklings

Little Chicks

We have been...

- Reading all about the nativity story and sequencing it
- Dressing up as the different nativity characters and playing in our Santa's Grotto
- 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 and putting it in the correct sequence
- 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
- Using prepositions or positional vocabulary to describe where something is or to follow an instruction involving a preposition
- 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
- Cutting and printing our very own party hats, Christmas cards, decorations and calendars

Our Learning - What next?

Our whole school theme for the spring term is 'What can we see?' We plan to explore this question through a number of different child-led interests such as space, day and night, dinosaurs, colour and the changing seasons. We will start this by looking at the immediate world around us and particularly exploring the seasonal weather. We will talk about why it is winter in our part of the world and what effect the winter weather has on our everyday life.

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.

We will be starting our new term with an Art and DT focus, printing with lots of naturally found objects and making pictures that have moving parts, using different tools and materials.

We will start by looking at the night sky and explore space. There may be an unexpected and unusual sight to greet the children on their return to start this topic off with a bang and engage their curiosity!!

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

Reminders

Names on belongings

After Christmas, please can we make sure that if children bring in any new belongings such as hats, gloves and coats that they are all clearly named? Many thanks.

Little Chicks and 2021/22 School Applications

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

PE Kits

These have been sent home for washing. Please ensure that these are returned on the first day back to school. They will still need warm outdoor PE joggers and a hoodie until further notice.

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. They can chat to you about what they have been doing in the rainbow challenges at school. You could even write and leave 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.

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.' Please continue to send in photographs or certificates if children have any special achievements at home such as swimming awards.

Spare Clothes

Any donations of old or outgrown uniform are most gratefully received throughout the year. At present, we have no spare boys trousers whatsoever!

Space themed stories or information books/Large Boxes and Junk

Please send in any that you may have at home for us to share in school. We will quarantine the books on arrival and before returning home to you again. We promise to look after them. We would also like to look at any books with moving parts for our DT theme of making moving pictures.

We also need any large/giant cardboard boxes for making rockets with and any unusual packaging (polystyrene blocks, etc) which might look like it is part of a rocket!!!! But don't tell the children!!! It's a secret!!!!

Reading Books

The children will be bringing home a couple of reading books and a page copied from their reading journals for you to record their reading on over the holidays. The books have not been in use in school this week before coming home to you.

How can you help at home?

Little Chicks Visit the Little Chicks Home Learning Page on the school website to find some activities to try over the Christmas holidays.

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. How many pasta twists in a cup or socks in your drawer?

Record your estimated number and your counted number. Was your estimate close or not?

Explain when it is easier to estimate accurately and when it is not!

Use your Cheeky Elf, a teddy or another toy and place it in different places/positions and use the different prepositions to describe where it is - in, on, under, above, next to, beside, beneath, amongst, between, behind and so on.

Make your own little positions book by drawing your toy in different places.

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.

Practise writing each letter correctly with the flicks in and out!

Read your reading books a number of times over the holidays and answer any how or why questions that the grown ups ask you about them.

Keep a Christmas holiday diary.

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 the new year of 2021. What are your hopes for this exciting new year ahead?

Find out about the season of Winter

Find out how you can help wild animals through the cold winter months

Practise your throwing and catching a ball skills.

Practise rolling a ball at a target.

Dates for your diary:

Monday 4th January 2021 ~ School re-opens at 8.55am/doors at 8.50am

Week beginning 11th January ~ Extra-curricular clubs will start

Monday 1st February ~ EYFS Dinosaur and Life Long Ago workshop to visit, more details to follow in the new year.



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 and Healthy New Year! See you all in 2021!

Our next newsletter will be on Friday 15th 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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