

Newsletter - 19th November 2021

Our News

We were so proud of how all of the children returned to school after their half-term break. They all returned with big smiles and lots of enthusiasm ready to complete challenges in their learning and play. Very well done!

We have loved hearing them talk about and share their holiday news which has been a great speaking, listening and writing opportunity.

Last week the children found out all about Remembrance Day. They each created a poppy using art materials of their choice and then thought of a special word to write on the back. These have formed part of a lovely whole school display in the hall.

This week has been Interfaith week, Anti-bullying week and World Nursery Rhyme week. A very busy week! For Interfaith week each class has been learning about a different faith and creating a poster to display around school and share in a whole school virtual assembly. The Ducklings have been finding out about Christianity, it's beliefs, symbols, celebrations, place of worship, special book and daily life at home. Thank you to those children who brought in photographs and artefacts of their Christenings or visits to a church to share with the class.

As part of anti-bullying week we have read some lovely stories 'Be Kind,' 'Don't be a bully, Billy!' and 'Sorry' to help us think about how we should treat others and how we can help if we notice that someone isn't being very kind.

We have celebrated World Nursery Rhyme week by continuing with our learning around the theme of nursery rhymes. This week, the Ducklings and Little Chicks have been busy constructing walls for Humpty Dumpty, creating webs strong enough to hold Incy Wincy, programming a robot mouse to 'run' up and down the clock in Hickory, Dickory Dock, singing and playing the action rhyme London Bridge outside and using Twinkle, Twinkle as our inspiration for star Christmas decorations! Take a look on the Ducklings and Little Chicks class blogs to see what we have been up to.

We have begun to read our nativity story, The Nursery Rhyme Nativity and started to learn to sing and sign along to the songs with the expert help of Amiee and Mr Kenyon.



STAR WRITER OF THE HALF-TERM

Nancy from Yellow Ducklings and Georgia from Brown Ducklings

STAR READER OF THE HALF-TERM

Abel from Yellow Ducklings and Aidan from Brown Ducklings

STAR MATHEMATICIAN OF THE HALF-TERM

Cole from Yellow Ducklings and Ella from Brown Ducklings

Little Chicks

We have been...

- Tracing around nursery rhyme characters and twinkling stars to develop our pencil control.
- Using positional language to describe where Humpty Dumpty is.
- Finding out about the sounds a and b.
- Creating our Nursery Rhyme shop in the role play area.

Ducklings

We have been...

- Writing drawing and writing simple sentences about our holiday news.
- Thinking and writing about the different ways that we can be kind.
- Investigating and exploring with the numbers 4 and 5, including subitising, counting, finding 1 more and 1 less, composing these numbers in lots of different ways.
- Learning the letter names, their sounds, how to write them and read words and simple sentences with the letters h, b, f, ff, l, ll and ss in.



Our Learning

We will continue with our theme of Nursery rhymes and action songs next week, focusing on listening out for rhyming pairs and having a go at continuing our own rhyming strings both orally and using our phonics skill to write them too. We will be reading Miss Polly had a Dolly, Mary had a Little Lamb, Hey Diddle, Diddle, Old MacDonald and I'm a little teapot!

After this we will begin our Christmas learning journey by starting off with the story of the very first Christmas and find out why Christians celebrate Christmas.

Reminders

WOW! Certificates

Thank you for all of the lovely Wow! moment certificates that we have received this half-term. Just ask your child's class teacher if you need anymore.

Ducklings and reading

Please try to read every day at home. This could take the form of reading the school reading book or other books together at home. It could also be practising the letter/sound cards that are sent home and using them to make and read simple words. This regular practise is crucial for your child's development in literacy. **Reading records need to be in school each day please!**

Family Photographs and Reading Photographs

We still have spaces on our lovely displays if you haven't yet sent in a photograph.

Family - send in a photograph of you and your family.

Everywhere readers - send in a photograph of you reading wherever you may be - in bed, in the garden, at the supermarket, in the car, up a mountain!!!! The crazier the better!

You can email them to your child's class teacher.

Singing in the Community

We are planning to sing some of our Christmas songs to a group in our local community. When we do this, we would love it if the children could wear a Christmas jumper and a Santa hat. Just letting you know in advance and there will be more details to follow regarding this. Thank you.

Fairy Cake Friday

Friday 26th November will be Ducklings and Little Chicks turn to sell fairy cakes. Please bring in your shop bought cakes (with ingredients labels) on this day or the day before. Don't forget to bring your 20p to buy a cake too!

Christmas Fair

We have started to make our crafts to sell at the Christmas fair and this will continue over the next few weeks. Please can we ask for donations of the following to help with our enterprise?

- Wax crayons - old or new
- Plain Christmas baubles

How can you help at home?

Little Chicks

Sing the different nursery rhymes together at home that you have been learning.

Look for repeating patterns everywhere when you are out and about.

Put a toy in different places and use the positional vocabulary to describe where it is.

Play I spy.

Ducklings

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

Talk for Mathematics

Explore looking for the numbers 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 when you are out and about.

Watch the Number blocks programmes on CBeebies - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/group/b08bzfnh>

Explore subitising with 1-5. This is when you can look at a group of objects and realise how many there are without counting. Get a grown up to make different arrangements and see if you can guess how many there are without counting.

Use real objects to explore making 4 and 5 in different ways, for e.g. $2+3=5$, $1+1+1+2=5$

Explore making 1 more and 1 less than each number to 5 and then to 10. Use real objects to help you or make a number line. Count on 1 more or count back 1 less.

Roll a dice and say the number that is 1 more or 1 less each time.

Sing counting songs such as Five currant buns, Five Little Ducks, Ten Green Bottles.

Chalk a number line on your garden path - listen to the instructions given by a grown up - "Move to the number that is 1 more than 4!"

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 the letters and sounds that we have been learning - h, b, f, ff, l, ll and ss.

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

Practise writing the capital letter and the lowercase letter.

Look for these letters in books at home.

Chalk a hopscotch outside with all of the sounds or tricky words you are learning in.

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 b-a-ck?

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

Or watch the letter and sound videos for each letter of the alphabet for e.g. The letter f -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gVJQL1E7BFQ>

www.phonicsplay.co.uk

www.phonicsbloom.co.uk

www.ictgames.com/literacy

Talk for topic

Play some rhyming games together.

Can you orally carry on a rhyming string? "Polly, dolly, holly, Molly." They can be real or nonsense words. The winner is the person who thinks of the very last word!

Sing the nursery rhymes that we have been learning in school. Perform them to an audience in your family!

Make your own rhyming pairs game by drawing pictures and writing words that rhyme - pig/dig, bun/run.

Paint or draw a picture of your favourite nursery rhyme.

Dates for your diary:

Friday 26th November - Ducklings and Little Chicks Fairy Cake Friday. Bring in shop bought cakes

(complete with ingredients/contents list) to sell.

- Nasal Flu Vaccinations with School Nurses

- Non-uniform day - donations of unwanted gifts for the Christmas fair.

Our next newsletter will be on Friday 3rd December 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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