

### Our Learning

The children have all enjoyed finding out about their five senses over the last few weeks. Ask them to name the five different senses to you. They might even be able to sing some of the senses songs that we have been learning too. We have read a series of non-fiction or information books together, all about the different senses. Perhaps they can tell you some facts that they have discovered?

They have enjoyed exploring their sense of taste by trying different foods and deciding whether they were sweet, bitter, salty, spicy or sour. They took part in a taste investigation to, discover what the mystery red drinks were! Despite all three drinks being red in colour the children discovered that one was water, one was orange squash and finally lemon.

With their funky fingers, the children have been making playdough sausages and using their knife and fork skills to cut them up.

The role play area has been a café and the children have loved pretending to be customers or café staff, taking orders, laying the table, making the meals and making their own menus of what they like to taste.

This week the sense of smell has been explored. Outside the children have explored cutting fresh herbs from the garden to make herb soup with in our mud kitchen. They have also mixed spices with water to make some fragrant paints to mark make with.

We have continued to be lucky with the weather for our outdoor PE lessons too. Let's hope that this continues!

A big well done to those of you who have been practising getting dressed and undressed by yourselves at home. We can really see an improvement each week!

### Little Chicks have been...

- Mark making and drawing the favourite things that they like to taste
- Comparing quantities and counting out small amounts, threading the right number of cereal hoops to match the numeral
- Mark making in different trays - such as sand and flour with different tools
- Listening to and playing 'Guess the sound?' games
- Listening to sounds everywhere around us.

### Ducklings have been...

- Finding out the names of the characters in our school reading books.
- Drawing and writing about the things that we like to taste and smell and those that we don't!
- Counting out a given number of objects from a larger group and matching the correct numeral to the group
- Comparing two groups to decide which has more and fewer
- In Phonics we have been sorting objects according to their initial sounds and learning about the letters and sounds s, a, t - how to write them, listening out for them and reading words with them in.
- Practising doing up and undoing shirt buttons
- Making a collage on paper plates of our favourite foods



### STARS OF THE WEEK

Ella Greaves and Max McArdle from Yellow Ducklings  
Charlie Barratt and Kennedy Binks from Brown Ducklings





## What we will be learning next

Next week we will continue to find out more about the senses of sight and touch. We will play lots of games to describe what we can see and feel. We will explore using different materials and textures to create art work and construct with junk materials.

In mathematics the Little Chicks will explore 2D shapes and how they can arrange them to make pictures and the Ducklings will be exploring one more and one less followed by ordering objects by their size and using different size vocabulary to describe them.

In Phonics the Little Chicks will listen out for things that begin with the same sound and the Ducklings will continue to learn the names, sounds, how to write the letters p, i and n, as well as reading words with these sounds in. They will also continue to develop their early reading skills in guided reading sessions.

We will go on sensory walks to explore our sense of sight and touch. Our investigation and exploration area will become a collection of autumn treasures for the children to use their senses to explore.

## Reminders

Names - Please make sure that all items of uniform, including coats have names in.

Wellies and Puddle suits - Please can all children have a pair of wellies and a puddlesuit in school, especially as the weather is starting to change. We learn outside, everyday and in all weathers! A coat is now needed each day as well.

Blog - Please look on the Little Chicks and Ducklings blog pages on the school website. This is a great way for you and your child to share what they have been doing at school each week and encourages them to talk about their experiences. You could write a comment together.

PE - As the weather is beginning to get a bit colder, please send in some plain, dark coloured joggers and a hoodie for your child's PE kit. We ask that **all long hair** is tied back in PE lessons for safety reasons, but also for hygiene reasons in every lesson to prevent the spread of headlice and to allow for good vision when learning. Thank you for your help with this.

Cool Milk -A number of children are asking for milk, who don't appear to be on our milk list. Please check with your child whether or not they would like milk. Even if your child is under 5 years of age and is entitled to free milk, you still have to register with the Cool Milk company for this to happen. It can take a week or so for this to be processed. Visit <https://www.coolmilk.com/>

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.'

Autumn Objects - While you are out and about can you collect as many different natural objects for our autumn investigation table, such as conkers and their shells, acorns, sycamore seeds, different coloured leaves and fir cones. Many thanks.

## How can you help at home?

- Practise using a knife and fork
- Reinforcing saying please and thank you when asking for things
- Practise zipping or buttoning up your coats
- Folding your clothes back the right way when they are inside out

## **Ducklings**

Keep practising getting dressed and undressed – doing up and undoing buttons, zips and the hook and eye catches on trousers, even ties, if you are up for a challenge! Practise the getting your shirt on and off trick, by only undoing a few of the top buttons and taking it on and off like a t-shirt!

### **Talk for Mathematics**

Count out autumn objects that you find – leaves, conkers, acorns, etc.

Practise counting different groups of objects with or without moving them to help you count.

Count actions such as claps, jumps, steps, etc.

Look at two different collections of objects and compare them saying which has more or fewer.

Practise counting forwards and backwards to 5, 10, then 20.

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

What number comes next? " 11, 12, 13, \_\_\_?"

Ask a grown up to use a puppet and to count, but make a mistake! Can you spot their mistake?

[www.ictgames.com/numeracy](http://www.ictgames.com/numeracy)

[www.topmarks.com](http://www.topmarks.com)

### **Talk for Reading and Writing**

When you are sharing a story together at home, find the title and author and show the children where you are starting to read on the page. Talk about the blurb on the back cover. When reading a new book for the first time predict what they think will happen. Talk about the pictures together and use these to 'tell' their own story.

Can you read a non-fiction book together too? Maybe you could borrow an information book about autumn from the local library.

Use chalks or paints on the path in the garden to practise writing the letters you have been learning – s, a and t.

Remember the cursive handwriting and to do your flicks in and out of each letter correctly! You could also fill a tray with flour, rice or salt and write in it with your fingers!

Look around the home for things that begin with s, a and t.

[www.phonicsplay.co.uk](http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk)

[www.ictgames.com/literacy](http://www.ictgames.com/literacy)

[www.phonicsbloom.co.uk](http://www.phonicsbloom.co.uk)

[www.oxfordowl.co.uk](http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk) Username: carletongreen0 Password: Ducklings

### **Talk for topic**

When out and about, use your sense of sight to describe what you can see.

Go on an Autumn walk and collect some natural items to send in for our Autumn investigation 'feely' table.

Describe how the leaves, conker cases and fir cones feel with your sense of touch.

When on your walk, talk about the changes that are happening as we move further into the season of autumn. What are some of the animals busy doing and why? What changes are happening to the plants and trees? Are we starting to wear different clothes?

### **Dates for your diary:**

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October – 3.30pm school closes for pupils. Reopens Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November.

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> and Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November – Parents' Evenings May be Zoom or face to face as normal. TBC

Our next newsletter will be on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October 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 school or email us.

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