**Our News**

Everyone is very settled during the day and is joining in with all the activities on offer. We are encouraging the children to learn in as many different areas as they can and to try learning somewhere new! We have been continuing to introduce the children to routines and our behaviour expectations. They are quickly learning to recognise what to do when they hear the ‘tidy up’ music or stopping when the teacher counts down from three! We have introduced the children to their Carleton Code Passports where they collect rewards for different examples of positive behaviour. Some children have already gained some rewards. Ask them to show you their passports when you are next in school! The children are also able to earn house points for their different coloured teams.

We are amazed at how independent some of the Ducklings are already, leaving their parents at the door and coming in by themselves! Well done! The Ducklings have been to do some PE in the hall. They were all excellent at listening to and following instructions and being able to find a space of their own and to move around the hall safely. So far, they have put their pumps on and taken off their jumpers and ties. Next week we will be brave and get changed completely into our full PE kits!!!

This week the children have been lucky to have some mums and their babies to visit. They enjoyed talking proudly about their brothers or sisters and the class have enjoyed thinking of questions to ask our visitors. A big thank you to all of our visitors for coming in.

**STARS OF THE WEEK**

Alfie O’Neill for being such a caring friend to others and Josie Harding for being organised and coming in ready to learn with enthusiasm each morning.

**STAR MATHEMATICIANS**

Ollie Hanson-Brazil and Alfie O’Neill

**STAR WRITERS**

Teddy McIlwrath and Eva Sumner

**Our Learning**

The children have loved finding out more about ‘Where do I come from?’ They have enjoyed sharing their baby photographs together and talking about how they have grown and changed. They have been busy bathing and dressing the baby dolls and using their ‘funky fingers’ to do up all of the buttons and poppers. They have been able to talk about what a baby needs and why and how these things may be different to what they need.

**Little Chicks**

We have been…

* Listening to and joining in with singing familiar rhymes and songs
* Naming and matching some simple 2D shapes
* Counting to 5 and recognising numbers to 5
* Drawing our homes and mark making in paint pockets

**Ducklings**

We have been…

* Writing and decorating our names
* Drawing and writing about when we were babies
* Learning all about the characters in our school reading books in preparation for reading
* In Phonics we have been listening carefully to sounds around us, making different sounds and playing ‘I spy,’ listening carefully to the first sounds of objects around us or the first sounds of our names.
* In mathematics we have enjoyed singing lots of counting rhymes and have been counting all sorts of things. We have talked about counting objects carefully and slowly, so as to be accurate.

**What we will be learning next**

Next week we will continue to find out more about babies and are very lucky to have a midwife coming to talk to us later on in the week about her special job. We will be reading lots of different stories about babies and will enjoy matching our baby photographs to our photographs of what we look like today. We will investigate tasting the ‘baby’ foods and try to guess which fruit or vegetables they are using our sense of taste!

After this we will continue learning about ‘Where do I come from?’ by finding out all about the different members of our families.

We want to celebrate the important role that Grandparents play as part of our families topic. It is National Grandparents’ Day on Sunday 6th October, so we will be having a Grandparents’ Afternoon on Friday 4th October. Grandparents can come into Ducklings and Little Chicks from 2.30pm to learn and play with their grandchildren. We hope that you can join us!

In mathematics we will be continuing with our very careful counting of different objects and comparing different amounts of objects.

The Ducklings will begin their guided reading in school to prepare them for bringing home their own reading books.

In Literacy and phonics Metal Mike will come to visit and we will pretend to be robots, listening to the sounds in words, by breaking them up into the letter sounds; for example, cat becomes “c - a - t.” Why not see if they can show you how to do it at home?

**Reminders**

**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!

**Being Independent**

Lots of the Ducklings are now coming into school by themselves, well done! We would like to encourage the children to do as much for themselves as they can. Independent children are independent learners. Let them do as much for themselves as they can and we can help them where they need it, for e.g. take their coats off by themselves, empty their own book bags and so on.

**Water Bottles**

Please can every child bring a bottle of water each day to school with them? Many thanks.

**Large Boxes**

We are in need of any large cardboard boxes for the children to be imaginative with!

**Hairbands**

Please can hairbands that are worn for school be simple and appropriate? Please save your fancy hairbands for wearing at the weekend. Thank you.

**Staff Car Park**

Please refrain from parking in the school car park **at all times**. Staff are sometimes unable to park and also we want to ensure safety for all pupils at all times.

**Play Area**

Please can we ask children not to play on the school play area before and after school, thank you.

**Family Photographs/Reading Photographs/Leaves**

Please continue to send in any of these photos to help with our displays. Little Chicks ask that throughout the year you send in any ‘leaves’ for their achievement tree too. Thank you.

**Fairy Cake Friday**

Each week on a Friday different classes bring in fairy cakes to sell and raise money for different charities. They sell to their own year group first and then other classes are able to buy some, if there are any left. Cakes cost 20p each and pupils can buy 1 cake. Please place a 20p in your child’s bag in a named envelope if you would like to join in with this. If there are no cakes available the envelope can stay in their bag until the next week. Ducklings and Little Chick’s will hold their sale on Friday 6th December. Thank you.

**How can you help at home?**

* Practising using a knife and fork
* Reinforcing saying please and thank you when asking for things
* Practise zipping or buttoning up your coats at home

**Little Chicks**

Look for numbers when out and about.

Counting toys or objects at home. What happens when you add more or take some away? Do you still have the same?

Sing some nursery rhymes together.

**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

**Talk for Mathematics**

Look for numbers all around, especially in your homes and streets; in books and magazines, telephone buttons, door numbers, road signs etc.

Find out where numbers are used and why?

Show them a number. Can they say the number then count out that many pegs, cars, socks, etc?

Count how many people in your family have for e.g. blue eyes or black hair.

Count how many people are in your family.

[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 find the title and author and show the children where you are starting to read on the page.

Talk about the pictures together.

Can you read a non-fiction book together too?

Learn the names of the characters from Oxford Reading Tree – Kipper, Biff, Chip, Mum, Dad and Floppy. We will send some pictures home for you.

Find objects when you are at home and out and about that start with the sounds **s, a, t, p, i** or **n**.

Play I spy.

Have a go at being Metal Mike! Sound talk a word, for e.g. get your b-a-g, nod your h-ea-d! Can they understand the word?

Play – ‘Whose name begins with a ‘m?’ What does daddy begin with?

[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**

Talk about who is in your family. Who is the youngest/oldest?

Look at family photographs together. Can they name all of the family members? Use vocabulary such as grandparent, uncle, son and daughter.

Create a family tree together using different media – collage, crayon, painting, etc.

**Dates for your diary:**

Wednesday 2nd October –Talk about Phonics, Reading and Writing for Ducklings’ Parents in The Wing (at the front of school) 9.00-9.45am

Wednesday 16th October – NHS Visual Screening (Eye Tests) in school

Friday 18th October - The Jungle Book production for school. Break up for a two-week holiday. Monday 4th November – School re-opens

Our next newsletter will be on Friday 4th 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, email or come and see us.

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