

Newsletter - 21st June 2019

Our News

Well done to all of the Ducklings and Little Chicks for their amazing costumes to celebrate the re-opening of the school library. They all looked fantastic. They enjoyed sharing their favourite books and loved listening to local author Dan Worsley tell them all one of his stories.

The Ducklings are preparing for their move to Year 1 and have been playing on the 'big' playground with all of the other infant classes.

The Little Chicks have been preparing for their move to the Ducklings by coming to the first few 'Stay and Play' sessions.

The transition to the new classes is something that we all take a lot of time and thought over. All of the staff from Little Chicks and Ducklings carefully consider all sorts of factors when organising the classes. We have asked all of the children who their friends are and have closely observed them over the last few weeks and months. All children will be in a class with some of their friends. It is not possible for them to be with all of their friends as we have to split the children going into Year 1 into three different classes. The children in year 1 will still play with each other at playtimes and at lunch times altogether.

In July when the Ducklings children go into Year 1 they will enter school in the morning through their new class door. They will also leave through these doors at home time. The children will be shown in advance where to line up and we will send a map to help you the parents/carers know where to go too!

It is very important that children going into the Duckling classes attend as many of the induction sessions as possible. We find that this aids for a smooth transition into the reception classes. They also get to meet the new friends who do not attend Little Chicks, but will be joining the classes in September from other nursery settings.



STARS OF THE WEEK



Jake Edwards for his super knowledge of the tricky words and Abigail Nichol for her enthusiasm and love of learning

Max Trumper for his endless kindness and Phoebe Peters for her amazing attitude to her independent learning

Our Learning

The children enjoyed healthy living week. They particularly enjoyed helping to make their own smoothies, deciding which flavours they liked the best. We have talked about the importance of sun safety, getting a good night's sleep, drinking plenty of water, exercising, feeling happy and make the right choices when choosing food.

Outdoors the children loved helping to create their own assault courses and from their ideas we held an inter house competition whereby the children timed each other to complete the course. They have also been practising their throwing and aiming skills by throwing beanbags into the very hungry caterpillar's mouth!

Our 'What's in the Garden?' topic has been continuing with the children loving watering and tending to the plants and hunting for different mini beasts. We also all investigated the question, 'Do the biggest plants have the biggest leaves?' Ask the children what they found and to explain their answers!

We have read lots of different mini beast stories and information books particularly about butterflies and the children are certainly butterfly experts now! Ask them to tell you what a proboscis is or a thorax! Ask them to sing the Hungry Caterpillar song to you too!

We have also been reading another story by Eric Carle called The Very Busy Spider.



Little Chicks have been...

- Drawing different mini beasts and writing their name
- Drawing a healthy dinner
- Ordering caterpillars according to their length and counting flies on the webs
- Playing lots of different rhyming games

Ducklings have been...

- Writing their own information books about butterflies - using their newly found facts
- Solving mathematics problems related to weighing the hungry caterpillar's food and solving word problems involving addition and subtraction
- Investigating the best material to make a spider's web from
- Writing sentences in phonics with the tricky words and words beginning and ending with two consonants



What we will be learning next

Over the next few weeks we will be continuing with our 'What's in the Garden?' topic, with a focus on different mini-beasts. Next week we will be reading non-fiction books about spiders and finding out about their life cycle, what they eat and what different spiders are like. We will continue to hunt for mini-beasts and find out where they like to live and why. We will then read the poetry book *Mad About Mini Beasts* and the story of *The Bad Tempered Ladybird* and *Norman, the slug with a silly shell*!

Little Chicks will be listening to the initial sound of objects and finding the magnetic letters. They will also be exploring the shape of everyday objects and making different arrangements with them. They will mark make tracing carefully within a snail's shell.

The Ducklings will be looking at reading and writing polysyllabic words in phonics, such as sandpit and lunchbox. They will be writing their own fact files about spiders and designing a silly shell for Norman the slug. They will be ordering and labelling the life cycle of a spider. In mathematics they Ducklings will be exploring how teen numbers are made up of a ten and some units, using different practical equipment to help them understand this.



Our Garden Party Day - Friday 5th July

We want to end our topic with a special day to celebrate. We have arranged for a puppeteer and puppet theatre to do a show outside. We have used our Fairy Cake Friday money to help to pay for this.

We will also have lots of fun garden games such as hoopla, giant 'make a beetle' game, have an ice-cream treat and lots more! We will also invite Mrs McGrath to come and judge the Bug Hotel Competition. We also thought it would be lovely if the children wanted to come dressed up on this day as their favourite mini beast. There may also be some prizes for the best dressed! We will sing and dance along to the Ugly Bug Ball!

Children in Little Chicks who are not usually in on a Friday are very welcome to come and join us for the Puppet show from 10am until 11 am. Please let Mrs Stock or Mrs Richardson know if this is something you would like them to do.

Reminders

Bug Hotel Competition

We have been learning how to make a bug hotel and the children have created their own designs. Have a go and make your bug hotel at home! All entries for the competition to be brought into school by Friday 28th June.

Library

The Ducklings have all brought home a library book of their own choosing. They are for sharing with you at home and not for them necessarily to read to you. They need to be returned each Monday for swapping.

Clothing and Essentials

Please can children have belongings be clearly named? A number of items of clothing have gone missing. Please can you check your child's uniform at home to ensure that they haven't picked up someone else's by mistake?

Please can all children bring what they need for the weather each day - sun hat, sun cream, water bottle, waterproof coat? Thank you.

Toys

Please can the children refrain from bringing toys into school.

Healthy Snacks

We are noticing more and more children starting to bring in snacks which are not so healthy. We have talked during healthy living week about how fresh fruit is so much healthier than fruit winders, etc. Plain rice cakes and cereal bars, etc are also very welcome, but not chocolate covered snacks. Thank you.

Young Writer Riddles

Duckling Parents - Please can all permission slip letters (if you haven't done it on-line) be returned to school, no later than Monday.

How can you help at home?

Little Chicks

Play rhyming games together

Play I spy

Count mini beasts in the garden

Ducklings

Talk for Mathematics

Look at the teen numbers and how they are made up of 10 and then 1 more for 11, 10 and 2 more for 12 and so on. Practise writing teen numbers in the mud with sticks or with chalk on the garden path.

Pick a number such as 5 or 10. Explore all the different ways to add two numbers together to make that number - $0+5=5$, $1+4=5$ and so on.

www.ictgames.com/numeracy

www.topmarks.co.uk

Talk for Reading and Writing

Read and talk about your book every night.

Practise the phonics flashcards and tricky word games. Practise writing all of the tricky words and words with the different phonemes in. Play the tricky words snakes and ladders games.

Practise chalking the tricky words.

Given a word, see if you can write a rhyming string - cat - sat, bat, rat, that, etc

www.phonicsplay.co.uk

www.ictgames.com/literacy

www.phonicsbloom.co.uk

www.oxfordowl.co.uk

Talk for topic

Make and decorate a junk model mini beast.

Help to make your mini beast costume for the garden party.

Research some facts about your favourite mini beast.



Dates for your diary:

Non-Uniform day

Wear non-uniform in exchange for bringing an item for the summer fair - 28th June for food items

Summer Fair

Saturday 29th June 1-3.30pm

Garden Party

Friday 5th July - Come dressed as your favourite mini beast!

Sports' Day

Monday 8th July from 1pm

Transition

Tuesday 9th July - Friday 19th July (More information to be sent out shortly)

Reports

Report will be sent home Friday 12th July

Little Chicks Graduation

Wednesday 17th July at 2pm

Non-Uniform Day

Friday 19th July in aid of Cancer Research

Our next newsletter will be on Friday 5th July 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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