

Newsletter - 24th January 2020

Our News

All the staff would like to say a big 'Thank You' for all the lovely Christmas cards and gifts.

We are incredibly impressed with how the children have settled back into their routines after the Christmas holidays. Well done everyone!

The Ducklings have fully immersed themselves in learning since returning from their holidays and love completing the 'Rainbow Challenge' each week. They have to try and 'independently' achieve 7 challenge activities each week and collect a lolly stick for each colour of the rainbow. It is encouraging them to be more independent in their learning and to apply the skills they are being taught each week., well done!



STARS OF THE WEEK



Beatrice Mooney for increased confidence with her learning. Alice Pilling for her enthusiasm to complete challenges around the classroom and Bonnie Ibbotson for super throwing and catching in PE and her amazing handwriting.

Joshua Riley for coming back with super enthusiasm and ready to learn after the holidays. Yvaine Dewhurst for challenging herself with her learning and Isabelle Connor for being a super big sister.



STAR MATHEMATICIANS

Teddy Hodgkin and Leinee Peters

STAR WRITERS

Darcie Little and Lola Webb



Our Learning

We have been...

- Finding out about the season of winter and reading a lovely story all about Jack Frost
- Learning and singing some winter themed songs - ask them to sing them to you!
- Exploring how water changes into ice and investigating and observing ice melting
- Finding out about life in the polar regions of the Arctic and Antarctic
- Enjoying making (and eating!) melting snowman biscuits
- Bird spotting in the school garden and making apple and sunflower seed bird feeders

Little Chicks have been making Jack Frost pictures with different media such as salt and glue, chalking snowflakes on our blackboards, learning more of the Jolly Phonics songs, mark making in the 'snow', describing the position of a toy using the correct mathematical vocabulary and creating junk model penguins.

Ducklings have been writing all about Jack Frost and thinking about what might make their snowman melt, estimating the number of objects and checking by counting, learning to add the total of two groups of objects and numbers by counting on, exploring the distance between different objects and using the appropriate vocabulary, designing and constructing sledges in DT and collecting and printing with winter leaves and branches and throwing snowballs with increasing aim at targets and in phonics learning the phonemes j, v, w, x, y, qu and z and practising handwriting them cursively and blending to read words with them in.



Our Learning

The Ducklings and Little Chicks will be finding out all about who celebrates Chinese New Year, how and why. We will decorate our home corner and turn it into a home ready for celebrating this special occasion in. We will listen to the story of the Chinese Zodiac and find out why it is the Year of the Rat this time. We will also be reading a book called, 'The Magic Paintbrush' together and imagine what we would paint if we too had a magic brush.

In our creative learning we will make paper dragons and lanterns and outside we will sing, dance and play instruments whilst creating our own dragon dances. To end our week we will be having a visitor coming into school to teach us how to do a dragon dance. We then hope to perform it to the rest of the school.

In mathematics the Ducklings will be exploring comparing, describing and ordering using the focus of length and then introducing the opposite of adding by exploring subtraction practically. The Little Chicks will be counting objects to 10 and beyond and matching to the correct numeral.

The Ducklings will continue their phonics by looking beginning to look at digraphs (2 letters that make a single sound) such as sh, ch and th.

After our Chinese New Year theme we will continue with our learning all about very cold places in the world.

Early next week, we will have a visit and a talk by a parent who used to live in Norway, to tell us all about what it is like to live where it is very cold! We will also have another visitor later on in the week to talk to us about their Muslim faith as part of our RE topic and getting to know how we are all similar and different.

Reminders

Reading

As well as reading regularly (every night if possible!) please practise the letter and sound flashcards to help your child to retain their phonics learning, also playing the tricky word games to help them learn these new words.

Fairy Cake Friday

Fairy Cake Friday has started up again and the Ducklings and Little Chicks day for bringing in cakes to sell is Friday 3rd April. Unfortunately there were not enough cakes left for our classes to buy this week, so they can save their 20p for next week instead.

School Trips

We are going to be having a Chinese Dragon Dance workshop visit our school next week and we are having a visit to Martin Mere in the Summer as part of our next topic about 'What came first, the chicken or the egg?'

The details of our visit and trip were in the school newsletter Issue 191 date ending 4.10.19 which can be found on the school webpage. The total cost of the trips is £27.30 which can be paid through the parent pay system. Thank you.

Carleton Code Passports

Little Chicks now have their own Carleton Code passports as do the rest of the school and they are already beginning to fill them in! For those of you that might not know our Carleton Code passports are where they gain a 😊 for being Confident in their own ability, Achieving their full potential, Responsible and reliable, Lifelong learners, Energetic and Healthy, Trustworthy, Organised and Nurturing.

Dogs

Please can we ask parents that bring their dogs on to the school playground to make sure that they stand and keep the dogs away from the door ways and entrances to school, as we do have a number of children who may be afraid to walk past them to come into school. Romeo is doing lots of special work with children who may have anxieties.

Spare Clothes

Please can any spare clothes that have been borrowed from school be returned as soon as possible? Little Chicks especially have given out a lot of spare clothes and they are running very low. Also, if you have any old or outgrown socks, underwear and uniform we would be very grateful for any donations.

How can you help at home?

Little Chicks

Place a toy in different places and positions and ask the children to describe where they are using the correct prepositions.

Talk with your child about what they have been learning at school. They know lots of facts about Winter and the Arctic and Antarctic.

Ducklings

Talk for Mathematics

Try estimating how many objects there are and check by counting. Whose guess was the most accurate?!

Talk about distance. Place different toys on the carpet. Talk about the distance between them. Use vocabulary such as near, far, closest, furthest, further, closer, nearer, etc. How can you measure the distance? Count footsteps, use a line of building blocks, or pencils in a line, etc.

Practise adding practically using dominoes and dice and other practical objects to add the total of the two amounts.

Record the + sums using the correct symbols.

Tell each other word problems to solve, for e.g. I have 5 bananas and then I buy 3 apples. How much fruit do I have altogether?

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

Write sentences with the tricky words in or look for them in your reading books

Practise writing the new sounds as we learn them and making sure that we use our cursive handwriting all of the time

Practise writing words with our new sounds in such as buzz, quack, shop and chin

Play the tricky words snakes and ladders games

www.phonicsplay.co.uk

www.ictgames.com/literacy

www.phonicsbloom.co.uk

www.oxfordowl.co.uk

Talk for topic

Read a non-fiction book together about the Arctic or Antarctic and compare how where you live is the same or different to living here

Try some Chinese food together and tell your families who celebrates Chinese new year, how and why



Dates for your diary:

Mathematics in the Ducklings' Class

Monday 13th January ~ Clubs to start for 5 weeks

Wednesday 5th February 9 - 9.30am in The Wing

Come and find out about the mathematics that your child is learning in school and how you can help them at home.

Friday 14th February ~ Love yourself Day raising awareness of Visually Impairment - Charity money raising day
Half Term Holiday for one week.

Tuesday 3rd March and Thursday 5th March ~ Parents' Evenings 16:00-19:00.

Our next newsletter will be on Friday 7th February 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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