

Newsletter - 24th September 2021

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. 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 you 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. Today we were brave and got changed completely into our full PE kits!!!

The Gazette photographer came this week to take class photographs of the new Ducklings and she was very impressed with how smart and well behaved they all were.



STARS OF THE WEEK



Daisy W and Reuben from Brown Ducklings
Amiee and Ralfie from Yellow Ducklings



Our Learning

The children have loved finding out 'All About Me!' They have enjoyed talking about their own homes and comparing how similar or different they are to each other. They have been drawing and painting their homes as well as using different construction toys to build homes. Outdoors the children have loved working together with their friends to build 'homes' and dens.

This week our families have been a focus. The children have loved talking about who makes up their family. We now know that not all families are the same and have celebrated our differences. Our family wall is starting to fill up with our family photographs.

Little Chicks

We have been...

- Listening to, joining in with singing familiar rhymes and songs and clapping along to them.
- Exploring the numbers 1 and 2, writing them, counting objects and looking for these numbers around the classroom.
- Mark making in trays of sand and using scissors to cut out and make families.

Ducklings

We have been...

- Drawing and writing labels of their homes and families.
- 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.

- This week we have begun to learn the first few sounds on our phonics journey - s, a and t. Thinking of things that begin with these letters, the sounds that these letters make and practising how we write them.
- In mathematics we have naming 2D and 3D shapes, spotting them around us and using them to make pictures or models of our homes. We have also been looking at how we can match and sort different objects according to different criteria such as colour, shape and size.



What we will be learning next

Next week we will continue to explore 'All about me!' and will find out about how we have grown and changed since being babies. We hope to have some of our baby brothers and sisters coming in for a visit so that we can ask some questions to the grown ups who bring them in. We can't wait!

We will be reading different stories and information books about babies to find out more. We hope to match our baby photographs to our photographs of what we look like today.

We want to celebrate the important role that Grandparents play as part of our All about me and families topic. It is National Grandparents' Day on Sunday 3rd October. It would be really lovely if any grandparents could spare 15 minutes or so to come in and talk to the children or answer any of their questions about what their lives were like when they were younger. Please see your child's class teacher or email them to arrange this.

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 and post a comment together!

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.

Parents' Talk about Literacy in the Ducklings

This is to be held in the hall on Wednesday 6th October 9-9.45am. Please sign up using the link below:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfPMRoiKRQrB0FScM9gRaDep1YITQo5eZuB-UD7h1JA8FAzQ/viewform>

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 first cake sale on Friday 26th November. Remember that we are a nut free school.

Thank you.

Baby Photographs

If you can, please send in a baby photograph of your child (named on the back) for us to share and look at together in school. We promise to look after them and return them safely to you.

Puddle suits and Wellies

As the weather starts to change it is essential that all children have a puddle suit and pair of wellies in school for outdoor learning. We have a number of spare puddle suits that we can donate if necessary. Please speak to your child's class teacher.

Donations of baby clothes and dressing up

The children are loving the donations of clothes for dressing up. Thank you and please send in more if you have any of the following items - old hats or fascinators, waistcoats, silk scarves, etc.

Donations of old baby clothes/blankets would also be very useful for our baby topic.

Pumps and trainers

Black school pumps are required for indoor PE (and trainers can be used for outdoor PE but are not essential.)

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.

Miss Savage will send you all a message with your username and password to access the Ducklings and Little Chicks 'Home Learning page' on the school website.

Talk for Mathematics

Look for 2D and 3D shapes around your home and when out and about.

How many different shapes can you name?

Show your families at home how you can sort a collection of different objects according to colour, shape, size, pattern and so on. You can sort toys, socks, natural objects and so on.

Look at two groups of objects and identify which group has more or less/fewer.

www.ictgames.com/numeracy

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**.

Practise forming the letters on the sheets as they are sent home

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

www.ictgames.com/literacy

www.phonicsbloom.co.uk

www.oxfordowl.co.uk

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.

Talk about how you have grown and changed since being a baby and a toddler to now being a child.

Dates for your diary:

Monday 27th September - Helping Hands would like to invite our Ducklings Parents for tea and cake in The Wing 3-4pm.

Wednesday 6th October - Talk about Phonics, Reading and Writing for Ducklings' Parents in the school hall - 9-9.45am.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfPMRoiKRQrB0FScM9gRaDep1YITQQo5eZuB-UD7h1JA8FAzQ/viewform>

Monday 18th October - Parents' Evenings online

Tuesday 19th October - Parents' Evenings online

Thursday 21st October - Fabulous Finish open afternoon for families to come and share our learning with us.

Friday 22nd October - School closes for half-term at 3.30pm

Monday 8th November - School re-opens

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

Our next newsletter will be on Friday 8th 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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