



Newsletter - 26th March 2021

Our News

The Ducklings have all returned to school and settled back into their daily routines really well. It has been lovely to spend the last few weeks seeing them learning and playing happily together again.

This week the Ducklings and some of the Little Chicks took part in an Indian Dance workshop as part of our learning all about the Hindu spring festival of Holi. They thoroughly enjoyed themselves and did amazingly well learning all of the Bhangra dance moves. They also learned about bharatanatyam - Indian story telling with your hands.

This week has been our school science week and the children have enjoyed carrying out simple investigations, making predictions about what they think will happen and making observations. A super scientist has been chosen from each class.



STARS OF THE WEEK



Cole Skellington, Florence Meikle and Tomas Gois from Yellow Ducklings

Lucie Goulding, Thea Gilbert and Ava Dodgson from Brown Ducklings

Grayson Brownlie and Jack Watson are our Science Week Superstars!

Our Learning

The children have loved learning all about dinosaurs and are dinosaur experts now. They have learned lots of new vocabulary such as carnivore and herbivore, prey, extinct and paleontologist. They are all brilliant at saying the very long and tricky dinosaur names too.

In maths the Little Chicks have been naming different 2D shapes and using them to create patterns and pictures. The Ducklings have been using their knowledge of doubling, halving and sharing to solve problems.

The nicer weather has meant that more children are choosing to go outside to learn and they have loved going on welly walks to spot different signs of spring. We have also been lucky enough to find some frog spawn in our 'pond' and the children are enjoying them every day to check for signs that they might be growing and changing. They have found out lots about traditional spring customs and who celebrates Easter, how and why.



What we will be learning next

Our next whole school theme for the summer term is 'Who is Top Dog?' This lends itself to more of a science focus. We are taking on board the children's interests and lots of them wanted to find out more about life in the sea or ocean. We will start the topic by helping a sea creature who needs our help in keeping the sea clean and free from pollution.

We will then be learning more about the different creatures that live in the sea, from the biggest to the smallest, comparing and contrasting them and finding out lots of different facts about each one.

We hope to have a number of visitors come and help us with our learning such as Mr Williams (Rupert's daddy) who is an illustrator and artist to help us create our own sea creatures and Miss Wilson's mum who has an interest in

marine biology and will come and talk to us about creatures living in the sea. Hopefully she will bring some with her too!

We can't learn about the sea without becoming pirates for some time as well! We plan to have a special pirate day and maybe Captain Dan Tastic might pay us a visit too!

If you have any favourite sea or pirate themed stories or books at home perhaps you can bring them in after the holidays for us to share with the class.

Reminders

BLOG

Have a look together at the blog on the school website to find out more about learning in school each day. A homework activity could be to think of a comment together and for the grown up to add it for you!

Needed

Please send in any junk materials for model making. We particularly need plastic trays and tubs for making boats out of.

Reading

We will be sending some reading books home with your child for over the Easter break. Please read, sign and return the comments sheet and books on the first day back at school.

The Ducklings have just completed some phonics assessments. Your child will bring home information regarding any sounds or tricky words that they need to practise in order for them to progress on to the next stage. It is very important that they master reading and writing these.

It is also important that your child reads at home with you every day. This might be a book from home, a book from the Oxford Owl website or playing phonics/reading games with your flash cards or on sites such as phonics play. Reading is key to learning to write and we simply can't express enough how important it is. Little and often is usually the key to developing fluency and confidence.

PE

PE days will be each Friday for this term.

We are able to return to using the hall for PE again after Easter so will be concentrating on our gymnastic skills. The children will need to make sure that they have black PE pumps rather than trainers for using on the gymnastic equipment. Thank you. It is also a requirement from the Lancashire LEA that 'all long hair is required to be tied back during PE activities.'

Playground

Whilst the playground is being dismantled and we are awaiting our new play area, please can you supervise your children and ensure that they do not go on there before and after school or get out and use play equipment that is meant for break times. It is also a requirement of our Covid risk assessment that once you have collected your child/children that you leave the playground as soon as possible. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

How can you help at home?

Little Chicks

If you celebrate Easter as a family, talk about how you do this together. Spot shapes when you are out and about together.

Ducklings

Talk for Mathematics

Practise sharing out an amount of objects in half fairly, for e.g. raisins, slices of apple, toy cars, pasta shapes. Explore sharing real objects into different groups. What happens if you have the same number of objects to share but change the number of groups?

Explore making doubles using dice and dominoes. Sing the doubles song

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8jOzhiACB68>

Practise saying the number that is 1 more and 1 less than a number. Chalk a number line on your garden path - explore 1 more than and 1 less than each number on the number line by jumping forwards and backwards on it.

Play the 1 more and 1 less games/songs

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Dd4tt-ICxI>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ap3XeB6Bhls>

www.ictgames.com/numeracy

www.topmarks.co.uk

Talk for Reading and Writing

Read and talk about a book every day.

Practise the phonics flashcards and tricky word games. Practise writing all of the tricky words.

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

Practise writing words with any of the sounds in that you need to practise from your phonics assessment.

Practise forming every letter correctly with flicks in and flicks out!

Use the write like a Jedi or links like this to help you...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VCI2wudcW3M>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2NQ6uS8blwY>

www.phonicsplay.co.uk

www.ictgames.com/literacy

www.phonicsbloom.co.uk

www.oxfordowl.co.uk

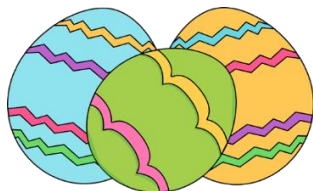
Talk for topic

Discuss with your family whether or not you celebrate Easter - how and why do you celebrate Easter?

Draw a picture and write a sentence about what you did to celebrate Easter.

Decorate your own Easter egg with a repeating pattern.

Look in your garden or local area for signs of spring when you are out and about.



Dates for your diary:

Monday 12th April - school reopens

Wb 19th April - extra-curricular clubs start

Our next newsletter will be on Friday 23rd April 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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