



Newsletter - 30th November 2020

Our News

Well, what a strange few weeks it has been! We are so glad to have everybody back learning in school. All of the staff would like to say a big 'thank you' to all of the parents and carers for their support during these unusual times. We were all so proud of the Little Chicks and Ducklings for how they coped and adapted to learning remotely. The quality of the follow up work that the children completed and sent to us was fantastic, so very well done! Visit the school website and have a look on the class blogs to see all of this amazing work.



STARS OF THE WEEK



Joshua Connell from Yellow Ducklings and Jasper Troughton from Brown Ducklings



STAR MATHEMATICIAN OF THE HALF-TERM



Matthew Atkinson from Yellow Ducklings and Ayrton McComiskey from Brown Ducklings

Our Learning

We have enjoyed our 'Are we any better?' topic, particularly exploring household objects from the past and discussing whether the technology we have today is any better. The children have been able to compare the different materials that things are made from, the efficiency and ease of using these objects and the different sources of power before electricity was used. They have been able to handle and talk about objects such as telephones from the past and place them in order of their age and compare and contrast them. The Little Chicks also had the opportunity to practise their sewing skills with Mrs Stock's very old sewing machine, that works even without electricity! We have been exercising our funky fingers by making patterns on robots out of nuts and bolts and using screw drivers to attach the nuts and bolts in our robots.

Little Chicks

We have been...

- Learning the names of 3D shapes and their 2D faces, making patterns, pictures and building with them
- Drawing around 3D shapes to make robots
- Making different shapes with play dough
- Mark making and imprinting on foil
- Finding out all about the letter a
- Sewing with Mrs Stock's very old sewing machine!

Ducklings

We have been...

- Drawing and writing all about their own inventions and robots
- Reading lots of different stories about robots
- Creating and completing repeating patterns all around them using lots of different resources
- Creating robots with giant floor shapes and by printing with shapes
- Finding the total of two groups of objects by counting them altogether - adding
- Applying their phonics skills to be able read words and simple sentences independently

- Learning to read the tricky words I, the, no, go, to and into.
- Programming our own little robots called Beebots
- Using positional language to describe where the robot is hiding!



Our Learning

Over the remaining weeks we will be learning all about Christmas and joining in with the season's celebrations. Next week we will be focusing on the nativity story and why Christians celebrate the birth of Jesus. We will be retelling and ordering the events in the nativity story, as well as dressing up in nativity costumes to act it out! The following week we will be finding out about how Christmas is celebrated in our homes and around the world. We will talk about how different families have different traditions. Our home corner and role play areas will be decorated and turned into Christmas at home and a Santa's Grotto. We will also be creating our own Bethlehem stable role play area. We will also read lots of different Christmas themed stories and write lists and letters to Santa. No doubt our cheeky elf will make an appearance too!



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. They can chat to you about what they have been doing in the rainbow challenges at school. You could even write and leave a comment together!

Home-Learning Pages

Don't forget to visit the Little Chicks and Ducklings home learning pages on the school website. These pages detail ideas and activities to be completed at home.

WOW! Certificates

On our Ducklings class page there are wow moments that you can complete and email back to us when you see or hear your child doing or learning something amazing. We miss having lots of these on our 'Wow Wall.' Please continue to send in photographs or certificates if children have any special achievements at home such as swimming awards.

Water

We are a healthy school and ask that just water is brought in in their school drinks bottles.

Spare Clothes

Please can all Little Chicks ensure that they have a full spare set of clothes to change into if needed in their bags?

Hair

We ask that all long hair is tied back for PE, for health and safety reasons. We have also had a number of cases of headlice. Please check through your child's hair regularly and treat to prevent the spread of head lice. Thank you.

Nativity/Christmas Stories

We will be reading lots of different versions of the Nativity story over the next few weeks. Please send in any versions that you may have at home for us to share in school. We will quarantine the books on arrival and before returning home to you again. We promise to look after them.

Little Chicks and 2021/22 School Applications

Please remember to apply for your child's school place online at www.schooladmissions.lancashire.gov.uk by 15th January. You still need to apply, even if you have a brother or sister already at the school.

Little Chicks and Ducklings Christmas Party

We are going to have some small class Christmas parties on Monday 14th December. Your child can come to school wearing party clothes on this day, but please be mindful that they are dressed suitably to be able to play outside as they would on a normal day. If your child is in Little Chicks and does not normally attend the Monday morning session they are very welcome to join us for their party 9-10.30am. Please let Mrs Stock or Miss Taylor know of their intention to attend in advance. Thank you.

Christmas cards

Due to the current Covid situation, we ask that Christmas cards are not brought into school and exchanged for this year. Perhaps you could make one big Christmas card at home with a message inside for all of the class to read and ask a grown up to email in a photograph of it for us to share.

How can you help at home?

Little Chicks

Read some different nativity stories together

Practise counting objects around the home and look for different shapes around the home

Listen out for objects around the home that begin with the a and b sounds

Ducklings

Talk for Mathematics

Practising counting forwards and backwards from different numbers

Count down the days until Christmas!

Practise finding the total of two groups of objects by counting them altogether.

Adding with objects from around the home - spots on dice, spots on dominoes, adding groups of toys or snacks - practise writing the number sentence or sum using the + and = symbols

Pick a number for e.g. 5 and find all of the pairs of numbers that add together to make the total 5 (1+4, 2+3, etc)

www.ictgames.com/numeracy

www.topmarks.co.uk

Talk for Reading and Writing

Look out for words that have a double letter in like ff, mm, dd, ss or ll, such as miss or will

Practise writing these letters in sand or with chalk

Look for these letters in books at home.

Practise reading and writing the phase 2 'tricky' words - I, go, no, to, the and into. Look for these tricky words in books at home.

Write a simple sentence with a tricky word in.

Watch Geraldine the Giraffe (+ the letter/sound) - phonics clips and watch and sing the Jolly Phonics songs on YouTube

Practise writing each letter correctly with flicks in and flicks out!

Write the message in your Christmas card, using your cursive handwriting!

Write your own nativity story books

Write a letter or a list for Santa

www.phonicsplay.co.uk

www.ictgames.com/literacy

www.phonicsbloom.co.uk

www.oxfordowl.co.uk

Talk for topic

Talk about gifts and giving. Think about what we can give that isn't an object; love, kindness, time

Talk about how you celebrate Christmas in your home and your family traditions

Dates for your diary:

Monday 14th December - Little Chicks and Ducklings Christmas Party

Thursday 17th December ~ School Christmas Lunch and Christmas jumper day

Thursday 17th December ~ Outdoor Carol Service from 2:30pm ~ More details to follow

Friday 18th December ~ Interim reports will be emailed home.

Friday 18th December ~ School Closes for the Christmas holidays at 3.30pm

Monday 4th January ~ Spring Term

Our next newsletter will be on Friday 18th December 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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