



Newsletter - 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022

### Our News

The children have enjoyed another busy few weeks. They enjoyed Mr Redman coming into school to talk to them all about his years of living in the arctic circle in Norway and Finland. He brought in lots of lovely photographs and artefacts for them to explore. They listened really well and thought of some very interesting questions to ask.



STARS OF THE WEEK



**Nancy and Jake from Yellow Ducklings  
Finley and Georgia from Brown Ducklings**

### Our Learning

We have been learning all about the Arctic and the Antarctic, comparing their similarities and differences, finding out where in the world they are and what lives in these habitats. We have also found out more about the Inuit people and how their lives compare with our own. We have been using different junk materials and tools to create penguins.

**Little Chicks** have been...

- Mark making by printing with penguins and tracing over polar animals.
- Exploring weight and capacity and 3D shapes.
- Finding objects that begin with i and j.
- Building igloos out of different materials.

**Ducklings** have been...

- Investigating the best material to stop ice from melting and the best thing to add to ice to make it melt more quickly.
- Reading stories and information from the past about Antarctic explorers.
- Writing a list of what they would take to the Arctic and writing facts about polar animals.
- Exploring different ways to make 4 and 5 and comparing different weights and capacities.
- Learning to read and write the digraphs zz, qu, ch, sh and ng.

### Our Learning - What next?

The Ducklings and Little Chicks will be learning all about the Chinese or lunar new year celebrations. They will be comparing this special celebration with their own family celebrations.

In mathematics, the Ducklings will be exploring the numbers 6,7 and 8. Little Chicks will be exploring 2D shapes. The Ducklings will continue their phonics by looking beginning to look at the digraphs and trigraph ai, ee and igh. Outdoors, the children will be looking out to see which birds they spot in our school garden and joining in with Chinese new year dragon dances.

In the last week before half-term, our learning will be linked with Safer Internet week and Children's Mental Health week.

## **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. Your child can access additional reading books at home for homework and is you are ever having to work from home. The login details are as follows:

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/>

The login details are as follows: Username - cgducklings Password - ducklings21

Please select books from the same colour band of books that your child is currently bringing home.

### **Packed Lunches**

Please monitor your child's packed lunch to see if they are bringing a lot back home. It may be that they need less in their lunch boxes each day. We are also a healthy school and want the children to bring in healthy packed lunches.

### **Parents' Evenings**

This term's parents' evenings will be held on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> February. Mrs Stock will be holding Little Chick's parents' meetings on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> February only.

## **How can you help at home?**

### **Little Chicks**

Try some new foods such as egg fried rice, prawn crackers, noodles, lychees, etc. Send in some photographs of you trying these new foods.

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

Have a look at home to see if you have any books with rhyming words in.

Mrs Stock and Miss Taylor will be awarding stamps in your Carleton Code passports for any home learning!

### **Ducklings**

#### **Talk for Mathematics**

Explore filling different sized/shaped containers in the bath. Order them according to which can hold the most or least.

Use dry ingredients (rice, lentils, pasta) to explore filling different containers. Which holds the most? The least?

Use kitchen balance scales or create your own using a coat hanger and bags/yogurt pots.



Compare the weight of different objects using the vocabulary heavier and lighter.  
Can you make the scales balance?

Using practical objects such as building bricks, beads, toy cars, etc, explore what 1 more than 6, 7, and 8 would be. Explore different ways to make 6, 7 or 8 using objects to help you. For e.g. 3 teddies and 4 teddies makes 7 altogether.

Find as many different ways to partition and make each number as you can.

Explore sharing 7 objects, Why is it an odd number? Are 6 and 8 odd? Why not?

Practise writing the numbers 6, 7 and 8.

[www.ictgames.com/numeracy](http://www.ictgames.com/numeracy)

[www.topmarks.co.uk](http://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 tricky words with chalk outside. Make a hopscotch!

Make a hopscotch with the digraphs/trigraph we have been learning on - qu, ch, sh, th, ng, ai, ee and igh.

Practise writing words with our new sounds in such as chip, bath, ring, rain, queen and night.

Look for these new digraphs in books that you have at home and when out and about.

Play the tricky words snakes and ladders games.

[www.phonicsplay.co.uk](http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk)

[www.ictgames.com/literacy](http://www.ictgames.com/literacy)

[www.phonicsbloom.co.uk](http://www.phonicsbloom.co.uk)

[www.oxfordowl.co.uk](http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk)

### **Talk for topic**

Try some traditional Chinese food.

Find out which animal is your Chinese Zodiac sign.

Explain to your family how people celebrate the Chinese/Lunar new year.

Teach your family the Chinese new year songs that we have been learning.



### **Dates for your diary:**

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February ~ Non-Uniform Day with Crazy Hair Day £1 donation.

~ Half Term Holiday for one week.

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February ~ African Drumming and Dance workshops for Ducklings and Little Chicks that attend on this day. More details to follow shortly.

Our next newsletter will be on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> 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.

Staff email:

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