

# Reception News

## 10.10.25

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week, our learning has been all about *families, feelings, and harvest time!* The children have enjoyed sharing their own experiences and exploring how every family is special and unique. We started the week by reading *The Great Big Book of Families and Peace at Last*. The children loved talking about who is in their family and noticing that families can all look different but share the same love and care. They created beautiful drawings showing what makes their family special.

Midweek, we learned about harvest and where our food comes from. After reading *The Little Red Hen*, we talked about being thankful for food and helping others who may not have as much. The children made colourful "harvest plates" showing fruits and vegetables we can enjoy this season. The class has also been busy learning their very first harvest song — we can't wait for you to see their confidence grow as they get ready for their first little performance!

To finish the week, we revisited *The Colour Monster* to talk about emotions. The children enjoyed a fun emotions bingo game and helped plan ideas for our new Calm Corner — a special place where we can relax and regulate our feelings.

This week, the children have built on their subitising skills. They will continue to use 'perceptual' subitising – instant recognition – by saying the number of sounds that they can hear, such as claps or drum beats, without needing to count. They will be encouraged to look closely at small quantities and observe whether the quantity has changed or only the arrangement.

When investigating the shapes made by Numberblock Four and making similar arrangements, children may also begin to develop their skills of 'conceptual' subitising. They will begin to notice the sub-groups that can be perceived within a larger set, and recognise the whole at the same time. For example, they will see that Numberblock Four can be arranged with 2 blocks on top of another 2 blocks or as a line of 3 with 1 on top, and connect both to 4. This will further develop their understanding of part-whole relations and the composition of number from Week 3.

The children have also been encouraged to represent quantities in different ways by using a number of fingers on one hand. Some children will be able to show an amount 'all at once' while others will need a lot more practice to be able to do this.

### Weekly Phonics

Sounds of the week:

ck e u r

Tricky word of the week:

I

Please support the children in practising these sounds at home. Next week we will finish the teaching for this half term and then we will be assessing the children to see if they have any gaps we need to address.

### Home Learning

Name writing: Keep up the excellent practice of name writing. We would like the children to be able to write their name independently (remembering the letters in the correct order) by half term and we are working very hard on this in school. It would be great to see if they can remember any of this at home. Please send in any name writing practice that is happening at home.

**Reminders:** Please join us at St Marys church on the 16<sup>th</sup> October for our harvest celebration and at school on the 23<sup>rd</sup> October at 2.45 for our Stay and Play session.

## Oral Health

The Government have asked that Early Years settings support parents with their child's oral health. Each fortnight we will share facts and tips on how you can support your child looking after their teeth.

**Almost a quarter of 5 year olds have tooth decay**



Source: Public Health England

**An average of 3 days of school are missed due to dental problems**



Source: Public Health England

### What can I do to support my child?

## Five golden tips for brushing:

**1** Introduce your baby to having their gums and teeth cleaned from an early age, certainly by the time the first tooth comes through.

**2** You should brush the teeth of your baby or young child until they are able to clean their teeth for themselves. All children should be supervised with their brushing until they are age 7.

**3** Put a flat smear of a fluoride toothpaste on your child's brush until they are 3 years old...



and then the amount can be increased to a pea-sized blob.



**4** Brushing should happen at least twice a day for 2 mins including last thing before going to bed – the last thing to touch a child's teeth before bedtime should be a fluoride toothpaste.

**5** Once teeth have been brushed, your child should spit out the toothpaste but not rinse their mouth so the fluoride continues to have a beneficial effect on the teeth for as long as possible.

**Look Listen and Note:**

Can the children sit on their bottoms?  
Are the children confident to talk to others?  
Can the children talk about the classroom rules?  
Are the children confident to speak in front of the group?

Can the children listen carefully to a story?  
Can the children say what a family is?  
Can the children explain that all families are special in their own way?  
Can the children share something about their own family?  
Can the children say who is in their family?  
Can the children understand that families can be different?

Can the children hold their pencil correctly?  
Can the children hear the first sounds in words like *mum, dad, sister*?

Can the children say what the word "harvest" means?  
Can the children name some fruits and vegetables that come from harvest?  
Can the children say why harvest is important for people?

Can the children recognise and talk about different emotions?  
Can the children suggest strategies to help themselves and others feel calm?

Thank you for the amazing home learning activities. Please send in any home learning you are completing for us to see and keep sending in your WOW moments-we love to see what the children are achieving at home.

Have a lovely weekend.

*Mrs Harrison*