

Reception News

27.02.26

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have started our new topic of Old MacDonald had a Farm by discussing all the things that the children would like to learn surrounding the topic- I think we are going to have a very busy half term. This week we learnt about some of the different animals that we might find on the farm and where they stay; our aim is to build the children's language skills and vocabulary through a topic they truly love learning about. Our role play has now been transformed into a farm shop and we discussed the different items we might find in there, we thought about the crops that may be there at different times of the year and the produce we get from animals. We also spoke about how some people choose not to eat produce that comes from animals and some of the members of the class explained their opinions. We also introduced the children to the change in the season and discussed what we may start to see. We are looking forward to going out and being nature detectives to find the clues that spring will soon be arriving.

This week, the children have continued to engage with activities that draw attention to the purpose of counting – to find out 'how many' objects there are. The children have also revisited the concept of cardinality – the idea that the last number in the count tells us how many things there are altogether. In class they have been provided with opportunities to hear, join in with and develop their knowledge of the counting sequence and to become secure enough with their counting skills to be able to count out a set of objects from a larger set, remembering the 'stopping number' and knowing that this means they have selected the correct number. To begin to understand the word pattern embedded within most of our number names, the children will also be given opportunities to practise counting beyond 20. Attention is drawn to the repeating pattern of the counting numbers by the use of a puppet or soft toy. This is intended to support the children in joining in with verbal counts beyond 20 using the repeating pattern of the '1s'.

Weekly Phonics

We have now completed our learning on phase 3 phonics. This includes some really tricky digraphs so we are now recapping these sounds to ensure our formations are correct and we can hear and incorporate these sounds into our writing.

Our sounds/words for the week are:

ai ee igh oa oo ar or ur oo ow oi ear

you, they, all, are, my, her, he, me, be, we, she, was

Home Learning

Please see the e-mail sent via the school office. The home learning this week is linked to World Book Day and the theme of **'think like a character'**.

Please support your child by thinking of some questions and how they would answer these in character. If the children would like to write the questions they are most welcome to however the focus of the home learning is oracy so the emphasis should be placed on how to answer and therefore you writing the questions is encouraged.

Think Like a Character



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.



From brushing their first tooth to their first trip to the dentist, here's how to take care of your children's teeth. A regular teeth-cleaning routine is essential for good dental health. Follow these tips and you can help keep your kids' teeth decay-free.

Toothbrushing tips: It's important to use a fluoride toothpaste, as this helps prevent and control tooth decay.

Children aged up to 3 years

- Start brushing your baby's teeth as soon as the first milk tooth breaks through (usually at around 6 months, but it can be earlier or later).
- Parents or carers should brush the teeth.
- Brush teeth twice daily for about 2 minutes with fluoride toothpaste.
- Brush last thing at night before bed and on 1 other occasion.
- Use children's fluoride toothpaste containing no less than 1,000ppm of fluoride (check label) unless a dentist advises family toothpaste containing between 1,350ppm and 1,500ppm fluoride. • Use only a smear of toothpaste.
- Make sure children don't eat or lick toothpaste from the tube.

Children aged 3 to 6 years

- Brush at least twice daily for about 2 minutes with fluoride toothpaste.
- Brush last thing at night before bed and at least on 1 other occasion.
- Parents or carers should brush the teeth.
- Use children's fluoride toothpaste containing no less than 1,000ppm of fluoride (check label) unless a dentist advises family toothpaste containing between 1,350ppm and 1,500ppm fluoride. • Use only a pea-sized amount of toothpaste.
- Spit out after brushing and don't rinse – if you rinse, the fluoride won't work as well.

Look Listen and Note:

Can the children hold their pencils correctly and use them to form recognisable letters?
Can the children hear the sounds in the words?
Can the children write the sounds?

Can the children talk about the season of spring?
Can the children say what the word 'retell' means?

Can the children talk about the different kind of books? (fiction and non-fiction)
Can the children tell you anything about a hedgehog?
Can the children retell you the story of 'The Very Helpful Hedgehog'?
Can the children use the language 'author', 'illustrator' and 'characters' and explain what these mean?

Can the children talk about the main events in the story?
Can the children say who the characters in the story are?
Can the children think of your own ideas for what you would like to write in a speech bubble?
Can the children hear and write the sounds in the words?

Can the children tell you anything about the farm/ the job of a farmer?
Can the children say a fact about the season of spring?
Can the children talk about the job of a shopkeeper?
Can the children talk about where some of the produce sold in the shop comes from?

Have a happy and safe weekend.

Mrs Harrison