



Reception Newsletter

Friday 4th October 2024

What another super busy week in Reception! The children have been great this week and it has been lovely to see so many parents too! Thank you for joining us for the Phonics Evening on Wednesday, it was lovely to talk to you about how we teach phonics and reading in Reception using 'The Little Wandle'



phonics programme. It was great to see so many of you there. I really hope it was useful. If you were unable to join us I have provided you with the handouts I gave out on the night, there is some information about the sounds we are learning which will hopefully help at home.

In phonics this week we have revised the letter names learnt so far and have focused on some letter sounds in particular. This week we have focused on: g, o, c and k. We explain to the children that 'c' is 'curly c' and 'k' is 'kicking k'. The children have also learnt to read the Tricky Word 'is' and they know it is a Tricky Word because the 's' makes a 'z' sound rather than a 's'. As the children learn more Tricky Words I will send them home so you can practise reading them at home too. The Tricky Words are the words that cannot be sounded out using phonic knowledge as the letters make a different sound. The children learn to read these words on sight.

The children have enjoyed our Harvest Topic and enjoyed creating their own version of Vincent Van Gogh's 'Wheat Field with Crows' pictures using oil pastels. They have also been busy developing their fine motor skills creating Autumn pictures and solving puzzles.

The Reception children loved performing 'Big Red Combine Harvester' for our Harvest Festival this year. They were amazing and super brave performing in front of the whole school! Thank you for all the lovely food donations you sent in, we really appreciate your support.

In our maths sessions this week the children have focused on counting up to and past 20. We have also enjoyed singing lots of different number songs such as five little speckled frogs, Five Little Men in a Flying Saucer, Once I caught a fish alive etc. The children have looked at repeating patterns and discussed how they know it is a repeating pattern and how to continue it. We have also used a 'Ten Frame' to count out up to ten objects.



Today was the first time the children got fully changed for PE and we noticed that quite a few items of uniform and PE kits were not named. Please can I remind you to put names in everything because it is very hard for us to reunite lost items of unnamed clothing with their owner when it all looks the same! Can I also request that you encourage children when they're getting dressed at home to have a go at buttons, tights, jumpers, etc, themselves as we are trying to get them to get changed as independently as possible – your support with this is very much appreciated!

Just a reminder that we have our first ever Woodland Learning session on **Tuesday 15th October**. I think the children will love it! I know a letter went out regarding Woodland Learning before the summer holidays previously which mentioned the sort of activities we will be doing and the clothes the children need to wear, but I just wanted to add a bit more again! The children are to come into school wearing their Woodland Learning clothes. Please ensure the children are already wearing their waterproofs as they come into school and that they bring their uniform and school shoes in a separate bag to change into afterwards. Many thanks. If children's welly boots are quite clean, they can come into school wearing the boots, if not, we can change them in school before our session. Please provide a separate plastic bag to put the welly boots in as they can get ever so muddy. A towel, spare socks and underwear would also be useful as we can get rather wet in the woods!

I hope you all have a lovely weekend!

Best wishes,

Mrs McKiernan

