

This week in Reception

Firstly, thank you all for coming to support your children as they performed at Kilmore for the first time. All the team were very proud of their classes for doing so well in front of an audience. It was lovely to see so many families embracing the opportunity to share their culture with us through the wearing of traditional clothing and the sharing of some delicious food.

This week, the children have explored what it means to be a scientist and thought about the question, 'What is Science?' as well as taking some time to remember soldiers past and present who have lost their lives.

Number

The children have been learning the rhyme, '5 Little Peas in a Pea Pod Pressed' and examining that rhyme in detail for numbers that are present and missing. Many children chose to record the peas on their fingers, finding different ways to do this.

Little Wandle Phonics

This week we have continued teaching the Little Wandle phonics programme. The children have consolidated the previous phonemes (and corresponding graphemes) learnt (s a t p i n m d g o c k ck e u r h b f l, j, ff, ll and ss.) and learnt the new phonemes v, w, x, y.

They are steadily building up a bank of known tricky words such as the, has, his, as, full, put, pull.

They may like to play hide and seek games looking for these words around the house. The children have started regularly using their whiteboards to practise their writing.



The children also read and blended the sounds together and on their own to read captions such as 'a fat hen on a hill' and have learnt to spell some simple words independently, e.g. mess and hiss.

You can find more information about Little Wandle on the Little Wandle website:
<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk> Click on the 'Parent Tab' for some handy resources.

Next Week

Some of next week will be spent preparing for the first Reception trip out of school on Wednesday. The children will be told which adult they are walking with and will be told to hold hands and stay on the building side of the pavement. Once in the church they will be reminded to listen to Richard, the priest.

In Maths we will continue with subitising, rehearsing the phrase, 'Don't count, Look at the amount' and visually comparing different arrangements of 5 as well as continuing work on Goldilocks. The 3 bears will plan a trip to see her and will need to make sure they have the correct number of items to equal the number of bears. Children will be challenged to record their planning and count repeated sets where appropriate.

Little Wandle Reading Groups Set Up

The moment has come when we are ready to introduce the Little Wandle **group** reading to the children in Reception.

Unless we feel your child is not ready to take part in a group quite yet, they will now read in a group of 6 three times each week. Those not quite ready will still access the reading but on a 1:1 basis, having an in-depth focus on those phonemes they are finding challenging. Most children will read the same book 3 times at school, each time focusing on a different skill. This will almost always happen with the same trained adult, but will not necessarily be with an adult from your child's class. Please note that your child should have some fluency when reading the book at home, as they will have had several goes at reading it in school.

In order to allow this to work, we have had to collect in and re-label all children's yellow reading journals which is why we possibly kept it now.

The newly labelled yellow journal will remind you that whichever day the Kilmore book bag, books and journal are sent home, **they MUST always be returned on a Monday every week.**

Ideas for home learning

Play hunt the tricky word - pin words around the house :-

- Set your child a challenge to find the one you ask for
- Get your child to race round collecting them and return to read them to you. Repeat- can he/she get quicker this time

Collect as many things as they can in one hand and count them:-

- Can they collect more/ fewer/ an equal number in the other hand?
- Can they calculate how many altogether?
- Did they do it in the easiest way or can they think of a way to make counting easier and explain their thinking to you

Make approximate cup cakes using guess work to be both a scientist and a mathematician:-

- Feel how heavy an egg in a cup is in one hand
- Try to feel an equal weight of flour then butter then sugar and tip each into the bowl
- Mix, cook, test and review
-

Remember- mistakes are our friends and help us to learn how to do it differently next time!

Evidence Me email verification

Every parent should have received an invitation to access 'Evidence Me' (2Simple) so that when your child is 'special' and you come to see us at the end of the week, you are able to access photos that exemplify their learning and offer insights into their next steps. Many parents have not yet responded. Please could you check your junk folder asap as we will need to follow up with parents who do not appear to have received invites.

Bears: A Warm Welcome to Shara

We are so excited to welcome our new Teaching Assistant, Shara, to Bears Class on Monday 14th November. Shara has lots of experience of working with early years children and is very enthusiastic about coming to Kilmore!

Lions: Preparing the Children

Although many children are already aware of the upcoming change, Philippa will talk to the class in more detail about Irene starting in January during the week of December 5th. This will give them plenty of time to adjust to the change and soon after, they should meet her during her induction process. Leela will of course provide continuity and we are both available to reassure any child (or parent) who needs it.

Focus Children Meetings:

If your child is chosen to be one of the three focus children from their class (Child of the Week/Special Helper/Class Pet Carer), please let your teacher know your availability for a short meeting to be held on the Friday of that week.

If you choose to have a phone call, please be aware that you won't see your child's books.

WRAP

On a Friday, particularly if your child goes to WRAP, please check all their belongings for the letter that requests you tell us how you would like to meet at the end of the week. This will also give you the prompt to send in the shoe box of their favourite things for sharing.

All children are sent to get all their belongings before leaving their room to go to WRAP. Some children are still needing to work on their listening and personal organisation skills, needing the individual support of an adult to ensure they leave with all their belongings. This is not always possible. However, we will continue to do all we can to work on this with your children.

Lost property

We understand parents' frustration when things get mislaid, even if it is often temporary. Please be assured that we are working hard to get your children to take responsibility for their belongings, but they have a very large area across the school in which to lose them. We constantly reunite clothes with children after every play/lunch time but it is a work in progress. Without names in clothes, our job is much, much harder and the likelihood of permanent loss greater! **PLEASE NAME ALL CLOTHING.**

Requests:

- Please send in small boxes and collage bits for junk modelling
- Please name **all clothing** including boots
- Please send your child with **a coat every day**, no matter what the forecast

Dates for the Diary:

- **Be kind to everyone day-** Monday 14th November - Wear odd socks to remind ourselves all day long
-
- **Church visit to St Georges church, Vancouver Road-** Wednesday 16th November at times stated in your class letter
-
- **Flu vaccine** - Monday 14th November (please remember to register – more information in Kate's parent newsletter)

The Reception Team

