

This week in Reception

We've had another lovely week in Reception. Despite lots of coughs and colds, the children have been very busy doing all kinds of activities. At the beginning of the week, we had a visit from Andrea, our local Community Police Officer, who talked to all of the children about road safety and stranger danger. The children were incredibly excited about the visit and were very keen to share their knowledge of how to safely cross the road – some even had a turn at walking along the zebra crossing and looking both ways. Maybe you could ask your child if they can remember the three or four things to do before crossing a road (**stop, look, listen and think**). All of the children had multiple opportunities to reinforce the maths learning, which has been about the parts that make a whole. The children have applied this concept in so many ways... from building large structures outside, making animals (with multiple parts!) using playdough, constructing elaborate k'nex, Lego or Duplo models or drawing the missing parts of an animal. We have really seen the children embedding this learning through their play!

This week we learnt a new Word of the Week; **persevere**!

Number

As mentioned above, our learning this week has been all about the different parts that make a whole. At this point we are focusing on the general concept rather than the addition of numbers, so we have done this in a range of ways. Why not ask your child if they can explain what **parts** and **whole** mean?

Little Wandle Phonics

This week the children have learnt 4 new digraphs, as well as consolidating a large number of previously taught graphemes. The new reading format has been going extremely well and some of the children are now beginning to sound-talk in their heads before blending the words out loud! This is a skill that we will continue to teach and practise. We hope you will also begin to see some of the children using 'prosody' (expression) in their reading and be able to talk about the meaning of 'comprehension', as we have recently introduced the children to these ideas.



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

Next week our children will be learning a Christmas story from around the world and creating a decorative hoop connected to this, which you will be able to admire when you come to the Kilmore Winter Fair on the 3rd December. We will continue to practise **persevere** for a second week, to ensure the children really understand what this means. We will also start to apply our knowledge of parts and wholes to numbers as well as finding some time to talk about 2D shapes, which the children will enjoy learning more about, in a playful way.

Ways to support your child's reading

Should you wish to, please check the website for more information about Little Wandle Reading. Ashleigh did a very informative presentation which is available on the school's website. Any questions you have may well be answered under the FAQs.

In response to concerns some of you have raised about only having a phonics book for the weekend, we have decided the following;

- All book bags returned on Mondays with comments from you in the yellow journal and returned to you on Friday with comments from us and new books.
- A library of phonics and 'real' books will be set out outside Lions, Tigers and in WRAP each morning.
- Parents from all 3 classes can choose up to 2 books to take and read at home from these boxes and return and change them as often as they like.
- PLEASE DO NOT SEND CHILDREN TO CHOOSE ON THEIR OWN.
- Please ALWAYS put books back in the box you took them from.

Ideas for home learning

Play robot talk at home:

- Ask your child to do different tasks using sound-talk - I.e. "please hang up your c-oa-t"
- Encourage your child to sound-talk words back to you

Play digraph pairs or snap (th, sh, ch, qu, nk, ng, ck):

- Write pairs of digraphs on cards and turn face down.
- Take in turns to turn 2 cards over to try and find a match!
- Use the same cards to play snap.
 - Extension: Can your child think of a word containing one of these digraphs?

Make your own playdough (the children are very good at this!) and use it to create a whole animal with lots of different parts. Talk with your child about the parts and how many are needed to make the whole. <https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/howto/guide/playdough-recipe>

Talk about the word persevere means. Can your child show you an example of how they persevere?

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.

Reminders:

- Reading days: The Kilmore book bag, books and journal are sent home each Friday and **MUST always be returned on a Monday every week**. This is to ensure that we have enough books in school for the following week's reading groups.
- Chocolate tombola: Please send in your chocolate donations to your class as soon as possible. The chocolate tombola is always one of the most popular stalls at the Winter Fair. Plus if your class wins (had highest weight in chocolate) they will win a prize).

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:

Saturday 3rd December 1.30pm - 4.30pm – Kilmore Winter Fair

Tuesday 6th December – visiting theatre company (children only)

Wednesday 7th December 10am and 2.15pm – Reception Christmas performance for parents/carers.

The Reception Team

