

This week in Reception

We are now into the full swing of the Autumn term and, although tired by the end of the week, all children are very settled and happy during the school day. This week we have had a lovely time celebrating the many languages spoken by the Reception children, and the children absolutely loved making their own beautiful flags! It was really special to see how proud the children were to share their knowledge of different languages and cultures with their classmates.

The children have managed the transition into the large playground after lunchtime very well, and are really finding their feet with the new routines. We understand that some children are still nervous about this and staff will continue to help.

Number

We have been exploring the numbers 1, 2 and 3 and practising subitising small amounts. This is where the children are encouraged to quickly identify the amount of objects in a small group without counting - "don't count, say the amount!" We have all been so impressed with how quickly the children have understood this new mathematical concept! Today we identified smaller groups within larger groups using photos, like the one below.



Little Wandle Phonics

This week we have continued teaching the Little Wandle phonics programme. The children have consolidated the previous phonemes learnt (s,a,t,p) and learnt the new phonemes i, n, m and d.



The children also began reading and blending the sounds together to make words like t-i-p, p-a-t and m-a-p. They are doing brilliantly well!

Please remember that you will learn more about this at the phonics meeting with Ashleigh on the 20th October. More information about this meeting will be sent shortly.

Next Week:

Next week we will mark World Animal Day and National Poetry Day About the Environment by learning about animals in our school environment and reading and writing simple poems about them. It will also be World Space Day so maybe you will find time to talk about this very popular topic with your child!

From next week the children will be spending morning playtimes on the larger, astro turf and Wild Garden areas. This is because we feel that they will benefit from having more space to run and play. As with the lunchtime play, we will prepare all children for this change and familiar Reception staff will always be outside to support.

Important Reminders:

Book bags

If possible, please only send in your child's book bag on the day written on the front of their **yellow reading journal**.

Outside Days

Our outside days are now up and running! The children have loved spending the first part of the day exploring the Wild Garden and got so much out of being outdoors. This is especially valuable for those children who often choose to spend their time inside the classroom.

Please remember to send your child to school in a warm, waterproof coat and plenty of layers on their outside day. Named wellies can be worn into school or left under your child's peg.

Please do not dress your child in an all-in-one waterproof, as these make independent toileting very challenging.

Bears Outside Day – Tuesday

Lions Outside Day – Wednesday

Tigers Outside Day – Thursday

A polite request

You will most likely be aware that parents are no longer allowed to cut through the Reception playground into the main school playground. However, there are some slight caveats to this rule;

- Morning drop-off: If you are a Nursery or Reception parent, you may cut through from the Early Years playground to the main playground in the morning in order to drop off an older child in good time. This will be allowed because staff will already be on duty in the main playground to ensure everybody's safety.
- **Afternoon pick-up:** You will **not be allowed** to cut through the Early Years playground after picking up a Nursery or Reception child, because the main gate on Kilmore Road will not yet be open and some classes will still be taking place outside. This is to safeguard all children.
- Please remember that at drop-off and pick-up times, the alleyway alongside the school is always open for quick access to either side.

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.

Requests:

- Please send in small boxes and collage bits for junk modelling
- Please name **all clothing** including boots

Dates for the Diary:

Thursday 20th October – Provisional date for parent/carer Little Wandle phonics training (this will be offered in-person during the morning or on Teams after school). More information to follow.

Best wishes,

The Reception Team

