

Reception Newsletter

Friday 16th May 2025

In phonics this week the children have been reading Phase 4 words which have been longer than in previous sessions such as: tantrum, chapter, forest, freshness, chimpanzee and shampoo. First, we ask the children to identify the digraph (two letters, one sound) in the word and then we have been decoding the sounds and blending them to read the word. After a few goes at reading the word we encourage the children to have a go at reading the word fluently. The children have also focused on compound words this week such as: windmill, sandpit, lunchbox and handstand. In our sessions where we focus on compound words, we talk to children about chunking. We split the words into their root words which make up the compound word, then talk about how the two root words create a new word with a new meaning. I have attached another set of new Tricky Words this week as the children have been learning some more this week (*there, when, what, one*).



In maths this week the children have been focusing on doubles again and the children are getting quicker at recalling doubles automatically now which is fantastic! We have also been looking at take away and finding less. The children have used ten frames to take numbers away from ten.

We are changing the reading books more regularly now that we are in the summer terms and the children's phonic knowledge has progressed, however we don't change the books every day as it is beneficial to read the same book more than once (if the books are shorter) to help the children recognise more words and build confidence. It also allows time to read longer books if it is too much to read in one night for some children. As the books get longer it means you can read half one night and the rest the next night. However, if your child is happy to read it all in one night that is great too! Also, please do make a note in the contact book each time that you read with your child as that is really useful to us.

The children have been enjoying the countdown to our chicks hatching and hopefully we will have some new arrivals in class next week. The children are so excited! We have studied embryo photographs of the chicks developing inside the eggs and the children have been taking turns to write in our chick development diary.

We have continued making omelettes with our lovely chicken eggs and chives from the veggie patch this week. We have been discussing the difference between fertilised eggs and the eggs which we eat. The children have written amazing instructions again this week for making omelettes and they loved eating them!

The children have been busy tending to our veggie patch with Mrs Mitchell this week; they have been de-weeding and watering the plants. Then we planted pepper seeds and green beans. We had our first strawberry which was very exciting, we can't wait for more!

I will be going on a few pre-school visits next week for the new-intake. When I am not here Mrs Mitchell will be teaching the class with the support of Mrs Brown.

Have a lovely weekend!

Miss Dale