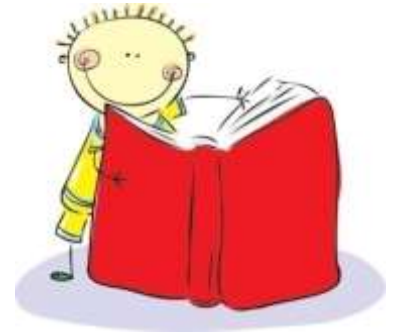


Reception Newsletter

Friday 17th May 2024

In phonics this week the children have been reading Phase 4 words and reviewing reading words containing previous sounds learnt. We have reviewed reading words with 'ing' endings such as swimming, snapping and twisting. We have also focused on reading words ending with 'ed' such as: bumped, jumped, smashed and cracked. Sometimes it sounds like a 't' at the end, but it is the digraph (ed). We also read words such as melted, grunted and trusted and discussed how there is 'ed' at the end even though it sounds more like the 'e' makes an 'i' sound. The children have also learnt to read longer words ending in 'est' such as: plumpest, strongest and swiftest. The children have learnt two more new Tricky Words this week (today and out), I have provided you with a copy which you can find in your child's contact book – you will also see there last week's tricky words which I forgot to send last week, my apologies! Please do practise all the Tricky Words at home as the children have to learnt to read them fluently, to read them on sight, so regular practise at home will help a lot, many thanks.



In maths this week the children have been focusing on subtraction. We have focused on using the language 'first,' 'then' and 'now' to tell simple maths stories to practise taking away in real life contexts ie, First there were 6 people on the bus. Then, 2 people got off the bus. Now how many people are left on the bus? The children had a bus and paper cut outs of passengers so they could physically move the passengers to help them work out the answers.

We are very sad to say that we don't have anything to report on the chick front because none of the eggs have hatched. If nothing happens over the weekend we can only assume that we were unfortunate enough to have been sent 6 unfertilised eggs! The children have actually all been very understanding about it and, whilst they're preparing themselves for disappointment at the thought of not having chicks to care for, they have accepted that this is what happens in nature and there's nothing we could have done to guarantee that the eggs were fertilised. 😊

We were, however, fortunate enough to have had another interesting egg-laying visitor to our classroom as Miss Smith brought in her dad's bearded

dragon, named LJ. She told us lots of interesting facts about him and the children were all able to get up close to give him a little stroke.



The children have studied the story of 'Chicken Licken' and compared different versions of the story, some with happier endings than others! We have thought about rhyming words and tried to match pairs of words which rhyme, as all of the story characters have rhyming names. The children enjoyed storytelling, making story maps and writing activities linked to the story.



We have been 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 for making omelettes and they loved eating them!



Once again, it was lovely to see more of you for our 'Phonics and Stay and Play' sessions and I'm sure you'll agree that the children are doing a great job with learning to read so many tricky words and longer words!

Finally, just a reminder about our sponsored mini Olympics and Bubble Run which is taking place on **Wednesday 22nd May**. We would ask that the children wear some old clothes to school on this day (as they will get covered in paint!) and preferably in one of the colours of Ireland (green, white and orange), as this is our chosen Olympic team!

Have a lovely weekend!

Mrs McKiernan