

Kittens' Class

Spring Newsletter



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the Kittens Class and a new decade!

We hope you have all had a lovely Christmas break and look forward to another busy term!

As we mentioned last term, if there is anything you would like to discuss, please speak to us after school, make an appointment for a more convenient time, write a note in the communication log or send us a message using ClassDojo.

Mrs Riley, Ms Kirby and Mrs Bradnam

English

During this term, we will be focusing on segmenting words to write and slowly build up to writing sentences. We have worked hard during the Autumn term to understand that a word consists of a group of letters and a sentence consists of lots of words put together. We are also aware that sentences start with capital letters and end with full stops. We will provide your child with lots of visuals to engage them with writing as well as using sound mats showing the sounds and specific formation of the letters. It is important your child learns to form the letters correctly from the very beginning because in Year 1 they will be encouraged to join their letters together. If they are forming the letters correctly now, it will support them hugely with future expectations.

Numeracy

During the autumn term, each day, we sang days of the week and months of the year songs, looked at seasons and weather patterns and much more. In addition, we also counted to 20 and back from ten, solved one more than and one less than problems and began to record the numbers using the number rhymes learnt. We are going to use all of the knowledge we have learnt so far, recap it and start to use it in more practical situations. We are going to learn about estimating, addition and subtraction and which numbers stick together to make ten (number bonds). We will also recap telling the time to o'clock and half past and extend your child's understanding to quarter past the hour. The first traditional tale we are covering is Jack and Beanstalk so we are taking the opportunity measure the giant's feet and compare it with the size of ours!

How can you support us at home?

We are so grateful for your ongoing support with your child's learning and feel this is having a huge impact on progress. If you want to support your child's learning at the moment, we will be focusing on 3D shapes including the cylinder, sphere, cube, cone, pyramid and cuboid. Perhaps go on a shape hunt around your house and garden and see how these shapes are present in your child's immediate environment.

In English, we are working on sentence construction. Playing games such as having a simple sentence with each word cut up, organising the words to create a meaningful sentence with your child, repeating it to store it to memory and then writing it will really help with being able to remember the sentence they are writing and record it successfully.

If any parents are available during the afternoon, we would be grateful for adults to hear individual readers. Please contact Mrs Riley or Ms Kirby via ClassDojo if you could support us with this.

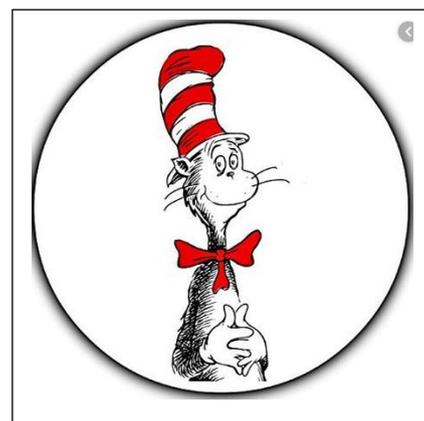
Synthetic Phonics

Daily phonics sessions will continue to take place each morning. We are moving on from sounds to digraphs and most Kittens can already tell you that this means two letters but only one sound. Most Kittens are already blending and sounding out words to read captions and sentences. These sessions will continue to be 'hands on' and active following a play based ethos. A 'real' book chosen by your child will supplement reading books from our phonic based scheme. Please ensure these books are in book bags every day.

We would like to take this opportunity to remind you that children learn in different ways and at different speeds, therefore, not every child has the same type of reading book. We will adjust this accordingly as your child's learning progresses.

Reading with your child and communicating with us

This term we will focus on traditional tales and a range of other stories. Information books will also be shared with the Kittens. We know how much you already do to support your child's progress, so please continue with daily reading and regular bedtime stories. As Dr Seuss knows: "The **more** that **you** read, the **more** things **you** will **know**. The **more** that **you** learn, the **more** places **you'll** go." We would love to hear about favourite books via communication logs sent home. Maybe your child would like to draw a picture of their favourite part of the story or have a go at writing their favourite rhyming words etc. In addition to communication logs, you can also contact us using ClassDojo online.



Uniform

Please make sure **all** items of clothing, including PE kit, wellies and book bags are clearly named.

Water Bottles

Replacement water bottles are available from the office.
Your child will be encouraged to fill this up and drink regularly throughout the school day.

PE

PE will take place on a Wednesday and Friday.

The Daily Mile will also take place on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Over the Autumn Term, our Kittens made excellent progress in changing independently but as previously mentioned, every child develops at a different rate and children who still need support will continue to be assisted in preparing for PE.