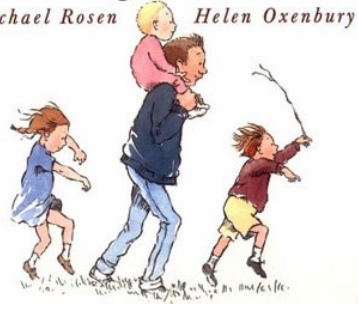


# Our Nursery Newsletter

*We're Going on a Bear Hunt*  
Michael Rosen Helen Oxenbury



Dear Parents / Guardians,

Friday 12th October 2018

**Letters and Sounds** is a phonics resource which aims to build children's speaking and listening skills as well as to prepare children for learning to read (and write) by developing their phonic knowledge and skills. Phase 1 involves the children listening for sounds around them, playing instruments, body percussion, rhythm and rhyme, and using their voice to make different sounds. A lot of our time in Nursery is spent singing nursery rhymes and clapping along to the beat. When the children are ready we will then blend letter sounds together to make words. Children entering **Phase Two** will have experienced a range of listening activities, including songs, stories and rhymes. They will be able to distinguish between speech sounds and many will be able to blend and segment words orally (c-a-t makes cat). Some will also be able to recognise spoken words that rhyme (dog fog log) and will be able to provide a string of rhyming words.

Over the past half-term we have been working on **Phase 1 Letters and Sounds** and for those children who were in Nursery last year we have been implementing some aspects of **Phase 2**. On your way home from Nursery encourage your child to listen carefully and tell you what "sounds" they can hear. We have played lots of listening games this week and the children are really improving in their listening skills. Reading stories together at home and singing nursery rhymes is so important to as well as prepare your child for school more importantly develop a love of reading.

A book we have read each day this week was a Big Book called "We're Going On A Bear Hunt", by Michael Rosen. Have a look on YouTube and your child will be able to tell you the story with the sound off (fingers crossed). As I read the Big Book I point to the words so the children are aware print carries meaning and also that we read from the top of the page to the bottom and from left to right. I also demonstrate how to turn the pages carefully. By the end of the week all the children were able to join in with me as I read. Being able to use story book language is another important skill at this age we work towards. This will help when writing stories as they get older. I have put a short video on the school twitter account showing one of the children "reading" the story during continuous provision time. It will definitely put a smile on your face!

To reinforce number recognition whilst out and about point out numbers to your child that you might see on houses, buses, car registration plates etc, (even if you just focus on numbers 1-3 to begin with). Counting real objects in your home is also worthwhile, how many plates do we need at tea time? How many forks? Then count them out. How many do we have altogether? All of these activities will give your child a good sense of number around them. Shopping is another good time to count and spot numbers, eg We need 4 apples, let's count them into the basket and so on.

Enjoy your weekend,

Nursery Staff