

# Reception Class Newsletter



Dear Parents / Carers,

Friday 15th October 2021

We are very proud of how well Reception children are doing with phonics and it has been lovely to hear from parents/carers that children are sharing what they have been learning in school at home. Some parents have said they themselves are beginning to say the phrases that go with the letters sounds. This week we have been focusing on the sounds: *o, c, k, u* and *b*. Below is a website you might find useful that provides phonic guidance, it has a section that lets you listen to how to say letter sounds correctly.

Education City has lots of activities and games that also supports phonics.

[https://cdn.oxfordowl.co.uk/2016/05/05/20/22/32/561/20097\\_content/index.html?id=ae](https://cdn.oxfordowl.co.uk/2016/05/05/20/22/32/561/20097_content/index.html?id=ae)

Part of a phonic session is to orally blend words. To support this, we use something called Fred Fingers. For each sound in a word we pinch the top of our finger and say the sound, once we have said the last sound we blend them together, saying the full word at the end, e.g. "m", "a.", "t" "mat". This can be tricky at first, but once children get the hang of it blending words becomes more fluent. As the children become more confident at writing, Fred Fingers will be a great support tool for this too.



Fred Fingers

- Fred Fingers are used to help us blend (Fred is a Frog that can only speak in pure sounds).
- Fred Fingers are used to spell words (Say the word, listen for the sounds, write the sounds in the right order).



As part of our maths focus this week we have been exploring repeated pattern, copying patterns, continuing patterns and creating patterns. We discussed that a pattern is only a pattern if it is repeated. We started the week off exploring patterns that have two colours or variables, e.g. red, yellow, red, yellow, red, yellow or leaf, acorn, leaf, acorn, leaf, acorn. The children did well with this. We spoke about how we can make patterns with many things pencils, knives and forks, even at lining up time e.g. boy, boy, girl, boy, boy, girl. By the end of the week we could continue patterns with 3 (sometimes 4) variables. Children found (independently) creating a repeated pattern more-tricky. This is something we revisit throughout the school year.



A reminder that jogging bottoms are only to worn on a **Tuesday** when we have P.E. They should be burgundy and are available to buy in most school uniform schools such as School Wear by Lisa on East Prescott Road.

Remembrance Day poppies are still on sale in school.

## Diary Dates

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October- break up for half term (finish at normal time).

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November - school reopens

Have a lovely weekend