

Hello parents / carers.

I hope you have been enjoying the hot weather this weekend and the longest day on Sunday.

Are you ready for another hot week? Summer is here and i hope you are still watering the seeds you planted, mine are now in the garden although some have been eaten by pesky slugs

We will continue with the topic 'The Farm.' for the rest of the term

This week the book is Mrs Wishy Washy's farm.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cizS3vyV8ks>

English

Continue to read daily.

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/>

Oxford Owl has a large collection of free eBooks that your children can read (free registration is required).

Also use the: **Reading planning for 5 weeks document** - Daily activities linked to books by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler

Writing and handwriting practice

Write what you have been doing at the weekend practice letter formation. Finger spaces between words and listen to the stories we have included and write about the story.

NOTE TO PARENTS before any handwriting play **some fun activities to warm up the fingers:**

Fine motor activities –to encourage handwriting

1. Providing colour clays to create different shapes. This enables the hands, the inner muscles of the palm and eyes to work together promoting hand-eye coordination.
2. Asking the children to write or draw on wheat flour in a large uniform tray. This makes their hands more flexible.
3. Picking up coins and inserting them into a piggy bank (saving box) one by one through a small hole or we can also let them play Thumb wars. This helps them to strengthen nerves and to improve their hand grip.
4. General hand exercises such as paper crumpling, squeezing sponges, spraying water to the plants, scissor cutting help to strengthen hand muscles.

PENCIL WALKS

Pencil walks are a simple fine motor activity that the whole class can do before starting a handwriting assignment. Using your dominant hand, hold eraser-end pencil as you would grasp it to write (using your thumb, index and middle fingers). Use only these three fingers to “walk” down the shaft of the pencil to the tip. Flip the pencil over, then “walk” back up to the eraser end.

Be sure not to use your ring finger or pinkie, or other hand, to help! Have “walking” races between students, or time students to “break records” to motivate



PENNY TRANSLATION

“Translation” is ability to move an object that is in the palm of your hand, to your fingertips of the same hand, using just finger movements. Translation involves finger isolation and finger coordination skills, and so is a great warm up to handwriting. I like using a penny, but any small item will work –like a button, paperclip, bobby pin, pen cap, erasertop or marble. Motivate kids by timing how long it takes them to get the object to their fingertips, or who can move the smallest object the fastest



THE FINAL COUNTDOWN

(again as missed photos last week) This is a nice exercise to finish the warm up with. Start SLOWLY counting 1 to 10, having the students count along by touching their thumb to each finger. Make sure that the student is touching only the designated finger without moving any of the other fingers. Then count backwards from 10 to 1. Now you’re ready to write!



Play monsters fine motor skills



Play dough is such a fantastic material to use to develop fine motor skills. Playing with play dough involves so much kneading, squashing, rolling, and manipulating of the dough which develops strong and flexible hands, fingers, and wrists.

Using small loose parts alongside the play dough also develops fine motor skills, as children have to use their fingers to pinch and pick up the items.

How to make play dough monsters

Set out coloured play dough and a selection of your loose parts craft materials with the invitation '*Can you make a monster?*'

You might pair this with a few picture books featuring monsters, to give your children inspiration for their monster design.

Let your children use their imagination to combine the play dough and craft materials to create a monster.

How many heads will their monster have?

How many eyes?

Does their monster have arms or legs?



Adding language to play time

You can offer paper and pencils alongside your finger gym – or set this up as a separate activity.

Invite your children to draw their monster design on paper.

Try one of these writing prompts to develop more language and writing around the monster theme:

:: What is your monster called?

:: Write down five adjectives/ words to describe your monster.

:: What did your monster eat for breakfast?

:: Where does your monster live?

:: Describe what your monster did yesterday.

Music story book:

Farm animals and sounds

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cizS3vyV8ks>

Questions

What people were in the story?

What animals were getting washed in the story?

can you name more farm animals that could be washed?

Farm facts

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8M8siMgbVka>

Maths:

The Three Little Pigs I Spy and Count Checklist

Count the number of each item from The Three Little Pigs story and write the numeral in the box.

cooking pot



house of straw



first pig



house of sticks



second pig



house of bricks



third pig



chimney



wolf



brick



The Three Little Pigs I Spy and Count to 10



<https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/to-encounter-and-explore-coins/>

More useful links: National Centre for Excellence in the Teaching of Mathematics You need to create a login but then search for Learning Maths Outside the Classroom

<https://www.ncetm.org.uk/resources/>

Farming Counts Maths activities from LEAF Education

Look around outside and in to see how many shapes you can find

<https://www.countrysideclassroom.org.uk/storage/resource/downloads/afdb1ec7-7bfe-44ce-9963-bd7572d4cb80/original/a-collection-of-shapes.pdf>

PE

- Follow the family fitness sheet
- ✓ Master basic movements including running, jumping, throwing and catching and begin to apply these in a range of activities.
- ✓ Develop balance, agility and coordination, and begin to apply these in a range of activities.
- ✓ Use running, jumping, throwing and catching in isolation and in combination.
- ✓ Develop flexibility, strength, technique, control and balance.
- ✓ Compare their performances with previous ones and demonstrate improvement to achieve their personal best

Creative

Playdough flowers nature themed number game

Materials needed

- Playdough
- 10 Sticks
- 20 Rocks
- Paint



- Paint Brush

The directions for this playdough flower game with numbers are fun and easy for the kids to play and understand with just a little bit of guidance.

Directions to play

1. Paint 10 of the rocks one color and allow to dry. Once dry use a different color to paint on numbers 1 to 10. Allow to dry.

2. Paint 10 additional rocks a third color for the center of the flowers. You can use multiple colors if you want a more colorful math game for your child.
3. Collect 10 sticks with your child from outside. Break them down so that they are all around the same size.
(optional: you could paint the sticks green for the color of flower stems)



4. Once the paint is dry, line up the sticks and numbered rocks and discuss the numbers with your child. Encourage your child to line up the rocks from number 1 to 10. Then ask them to place the sticks down below each number counting one to one correspondence as they say the number out loud.



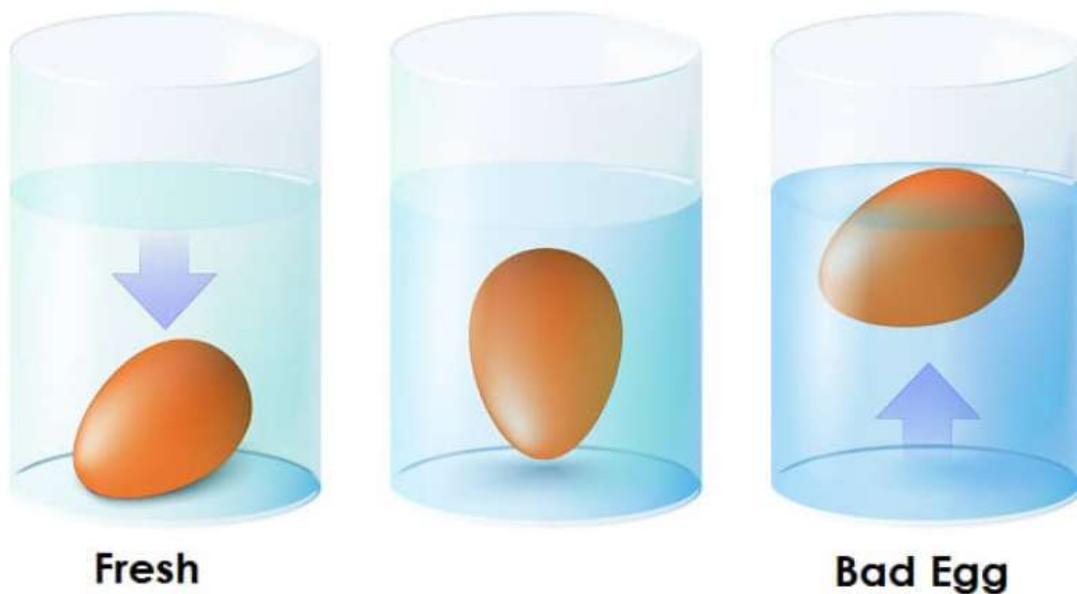
5. Now it's time to create your number flowers. Select a number rock and a stick, and create flower petals to match the number on your chosen rock. Flower petals can be all sorts of shapes. Let your child get imaginative with their flower petal design. We choose simple round petals and tear drop shape. You can make prints and marks on top of your petals can make your flower even more complex and beautiful.



Hope you have fun.

Science

Egg Science The two activities here illustrate how to tell if an egg is fresh or not and what egg shells are made of. There is also a diagram of the structure of an egg which children can see if an egg is broken onto a plate and some FAQs. n.b. Anyone handling raw egg should wash hands thoroughly afterwards. Resources – How to tell if an egg is fresh
Minimum of two eggs – one freshly laid (supermarket eggs are usually very fresh because there is such a sales turnover and poultry farms do not store eggs but move them to shops as soon as possible) and one at least three weeks old 2 empty clean jam jars (deeper than an egg) filled with cold water 2 clean plates instructions Put a fresh egg in one jar of water and an older egg in the other. Egg shells are porous and absorb air. The air sac at the end gradually gets larger as the egg ages. The fresh egg will lie horizontal in the water and the older egg, with larger air space should tilt semi-vertical or even 'stand' upright in the water. Ask the children why this happens – if they have already looked at the structure of the egg and its shell they may be able to work it out. Break the eggs onto plates to see if they look the same – fresh eggs have plumper whites, older eggs have flat, watery looking whites



Interestingly, store bought eggs can be up to 2 months old when you get them. Once the eggs are laid, the farmer has 30 days to get them packaged. Once packaged, they can be sold for up to 30 days, by law.

Free Daily Resources For Children



PE with Joe Wicks On YouTube

Week days at 9am but you can visit any time on youtube to view the workout.

Wildlife With with Steve Backshall On Facebook

Every day at 9:30am for answering all your wildlife, biology, conservation, geography and exploration questions.



Science with Maddie Moate on YouTube

Weekdays 11am. Maddie & Greg chat about science and nature!

Dance with Oti Mabuse On Facebook

Every day at 11.30am but children can view the class at any time.



Maths With Carol Vorderman

Free access to the her maths website:
www.themathsfactor.com

Music with Myleene Klass on YouTube

Twice a week. Next one Friday 27 March 10am, but can view any time.



Storytime With David Walliams

Free story everyday at 11am on his website:
www.worldofdavidwalliams.com

Thank you for your support

Kind regards

Ms Vincent & Mr Dowling