Cygnets & Goslings Newsletter

This Week in Reception...

Friday 16th October

This week, we have introduced our final new element to our learning here at Meadows - Drawing Club. Drawing Club is how we teach and develop mark making and writing in Reception . All children mark make and write sounds 3 times a week. They will also learn lots of new vocabulary with each drawing club story to listen out at home for any fancy-pants words!

We have continued our exploration of the colour monster this week with some amazing colourful experiments. The children observed and reacted to what they were seeing in the demonstrations.

Coming up next week...

Next week we will be exploring 'Pumpkin soup' as our class text and gearing up for Halloween celebrations over the half term. As part of our theme for next week, we would like every child to bring in 1 vegetable which can be cut up and added to our friendship soup which we will make and sample in class next week. Cygnets will make their soup on Tuesday and Goslings will make theirs on Wednesday. Please send in your vegetable on the day your class will make their soup. Thank you!

Please no tomatoes for Goslings due to allergies.

Parents' Evening

Next week is our Autumn-term Parents' Evening on Tuesday and Thursday. Appointments are 10 minutes each and it really helps staff if you can aim to arrive a little ahead of time of your appointment. Please enter and exit the building through the main office and not our Reception outside classroom where you normally drop-off and pickup. While you wait outside the classrooms ready for your appointment, you will have a chance to explore our floor books which give you a snapshot of some of the learning and experiences we have had so far in class. The main purpose of this parents' evening is to discuss settling in and next steps as well as any questions you may have. We will discuss academic progress and readiness for Year 1 during our spring parents' evening appointments. We look forward to speaking to you all next week!

Blending packs

Lots of children have begun to apply their phonics knowledge and are attemping segmenting and blending of simple words. Please do try to practise these simple words at home as many times as you can - if children can only say each of the individual sounds in the word one at a time (segmenting) remember that you can blend for them (say the sounds together one at a time) to help them to hear and identify the whole word.

Mr Wilbrooke's top winter play tip.

It may feel a little early, but you may be thinking about buying winter acessories for your children to wear here at school. My top recommendation for keeping fingers warm are waterproof mittens. These are so much easier for children (and supporting adults) to get on and off and woolen gloves become wet and cold incredibly quickly at school as the winter weather sets in and end up not being used. Any hats, scarves and gloves that make their way to school over the coming months - please label as best you can - thank you!

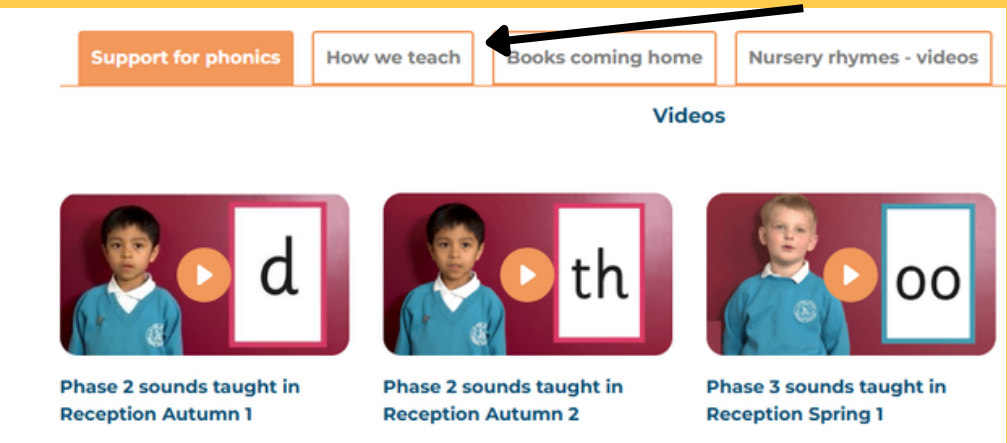
g		Give me a big smile that shows your teeth, press the middle of your tongue to the top and back of your mouth; push your tongue forward to make the g sound:	Pull around, push along the ground, up, down, pull around to make a tail.
o		Make your mouth into a round shape and say: o o o	Pull around, push along the ground, push up.
c		Open your mouth into a little smile; make your tongue flat and move it up towards the top of your mouth to say: c c c	Pull around and push along the ground.
k		Open your mouth into a little smile; make your tongue flat and move it up towards the top of your mouth to say: k k k	Down bump, pen off. Slide in, slide out.

Phonics Meeting Links

https://www.littlewandle.org.uk/resources/for-parents/

Follow this link to see lots of really useful information for supporting your child's early reading at home:

We recommend watching the videos shown below via the link as well as the video 'how we teach blending' which can be found in the 'How we teach' section



As mentioned at the meeting, we will be letting you know soon when we will hold a phonics stay and play session before Christmas, giving you the chance to see a phonics lesson delivered in your child's classroom and some time to explore some simple phonics activities you may wish to recreate at home to support early reading.