



Curriculum Newsletter

Autumn Term 1 2025

Ducklings Class



This half term our theme is 'Pets'.

As Readers we will use some storytelling actions to help retell the story 'Little Red Hen' We will explore the language used and the structure of the story during our play too. We will begin our phonics sessions learning some sounds and using them to orally blend words. As always we will share lots of stories in class too.



As Writers we will be exploring different ways to write and mark make using different tools and materials. We will begin to form the letters we learn. In our play we will have a go at giving meaning to our marks and write some letters, including our name.

We will make a class story map to tell the story and will have a go at their own maps.



As Mathematicians we will be using our Maths Snack time to explore different areas of Maths skills...these will include the composition of number, comparing quantities, subitising- saying what they see e.g. "I can see 3 pencils". Counting 1-1 and recognising numbers to 5 or more and exploring 2D shapes. We will continue to explore various maths equipment and practise the skills they have learnt in maths snack in our COOL time activities.



As Scientists and Explorers we will be learning about pets, how to look after a pet, sorting and comparing them. We will learn how to make bread. We will explore the different areas of the classroom, both indoors and outdoors.



As Artists we will create pet portraits, junk model pets, explore animal patterns with paint, printing and collage. We will explore musical instruments for stories and songs.



As Movers we will explore space and developing spacial awareness.

We will develop gross motor skills through balancing, climbing and large scale painting and drawing. We will develop fine motor skills using scissors to snip, manipulate dough with our hands and use tweezers.



As Learners we will use our 'COOL time' (Choose Our Own Learning) to become independent, creative and curious. We will talk about what they are going to choose during circle time and reflect on this as a class when chatting on the carpet. The children will use role play, construction, creative area, playdough, outdoors and other areas of the classroom to show us different skills and knowledge that they are developing.

Other useful information:

Your child will start to bring home a reading record and a book to share at home, they can bring this back and change it whenever they want to, we will help them. They will also start to bring home some phonics sheets with the sounds we are learning. More information coming to you regarding phonics soon. It can take a while for them to bring a reading book home for them to read so please just enjoy sharing books with your child at this stage.

Remember to check **all** clothes are labelled, including PE kit and spare clothes. Each day the children just need to bring their book bag, drink (not in book bag as they often leak) and lunch box, if they bring one. Drawstring bags are the best to leave at school with a set of spare clothes in as we have a very small cloakroom, the huge bags children have can make it difficult for children to hang up their coats.

Snack donation for this half term is £1 per week (20p a day for pre-school) which can be handed straight to one of us in Ducklings, thank you.

We do go outside every day and often in the rain, please ensure your child has a suitable coat. We are encouraging the children to be as independent as possible, it would be fabulous if you could help them to try doing things for themselves or have a go at doing up their own coat for example! Children love being able to do something themselves and showing us how good they are!

As always we are here to help so, if there is anything you are unsure of, please ask.