

Information meeting for Parents

Friday 23rd September 2016



Areas of Learning

The Early years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

Has 3 Prime Areas of Learning:

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Physical Development
- Communication and Language

Areas of Learning

Specific Areas of Learning:

- Maths
- Literacy
- Understanding of the World
- Expressive Arts and Design

How does Reception Work?

Room divided into different areas- creative, maths, writing, role play, construction, play dough and an outdoor area. Wherever possible staff encourage and provide opportunities for reading, writing and number work in all areas of the learning environment, so children are learning these key skills often without realising.

We spend time working alongside and observe/ photograph the children daily to assess their learning and plan their next steps.

Children also complete an adult led writing and maths activity each week in a small group.

Phonics is taught daily and we have a maths morning meeting every day.

What does a day in Duckling Class look like?

Independent Learning

Maths morning meeting

IL/Adult led Teaching Activity

Fruit time

(Assembly)

IL/Adult led Teaching Activity

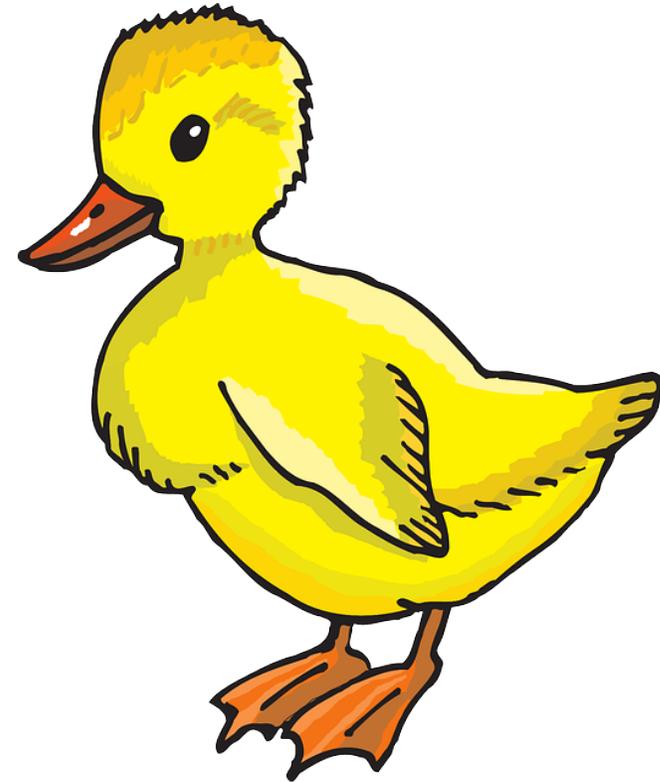
Phonics

Lunch time

IL/Adult led Teaching Activity

Story

Home time



Aims of the session

Understand more about what phonics is and how we teach it at school

To give you practical ideas of games and activities you can be playing at home with your children

For you to feel more confident in supporting us in teaching your child to read and write letters, words, sentences and texts

Learning to read

- Phonics is a useful tool we use to help children learn to read
- There are other useful tools such as sight reading or the visual look of a word, where we might use a flashcard (word written on its own)
- Children also use cues such as the pictures in a book, pattern within the text, such as the red fish swims, the blue fish swims etc
- We want children to use all of these strategies to learn to read, so particularly in the early days don't worry if they seem to read from memory, just encourage them to point to each word as they say it so they are focusing on the text.

So what is Phonics?

Phonics is the link between letters and the sounds they make.

Children are taught:

The full range of common letter/ sound correspondences.

Tricky words.

To hear separate sounds within words.

To blend sounds together.

Progress through Phases

- Phonics teaching is split into 6 phases. We begin with phase 1 in Reception and as a rule children would expect to be on Phase 5 by the middle of Year 1.
- Phase 1 –discriminating between sounds, exploring the sounds of words, listening for rhyming words.
- Phase 2 – we introduce individual letter sounds. The children are introduced to initially s-a-t-p-i-n , and then begin to read and write words initially using these sounds. Each week more are added.
- Phase 3 – more sounds are introduced, these are the sounds which are made using 2 or 3 letters put together, such as ‘ng’, ‘th’, ‘air’ and ‘igh’.

- Phase 4 consolidates children's learning in Phase 2 and 3
- Phase 5 continues to build and extend the sounds children need to learn.

And finally...

Tricky words!

- These are words which don't follow the rules!
- For example, was, go, no, some (and) said. Unfortunately, many of these are common words and they just have to be remembered.

Useful links

During the teaching of phonics, phonemes are articulated clearly and precisely (s,m,n)

<http://www.focusonphonics.co.uk/sound.htm>

<http://jollylearning.co.uk/2010/10/29/hear-the-letter-sounds/>

Both websites show you how to say the phonemes correctly.

Blending

Blending is useful for reading words.

We begin to put phonemes (sounds) together to make words. If we want to read a word we blend the phonemes. We use sound buttons.

c-a-t

m-oo-n

n-igh-t

Segmenting

Segmenting is useful for spelling. It is the opposite of blending

Chopping a word up to spell it out

Use when writing a word- sounding it out, what sounds/phonemes can you hear?

For example- cat can be split up into c- a- t or town into t-ow-n

Things to try at home.....

Play lots of sound and listening games with your child.
For Example...

- I spy.
- At home, on car journeys, outings ask children to find as many things they can that start with a sound chosen.
- Let them hear sounds... sound talk to them." Fetch me your c-oa-t or h-a-t'
- Read as much as possible to and with your child.
- Use the sound mat to practise matching sounds to letter shapes

- Encourage writing- shopping lists, birthday/Christmas cards, postcards, Christmas lists, letter to Santa, - this gives writing a purpose.
- Encourage children to use sound mats to help when they are spelling words. Ask what sounds can you hear?
- Reading when out and about- signs in shops, road signs, menus in restaurants and cafes, labels on food items. Again it gives reading a purpose outside the classroom.
- Encourage and praise – get them to have a ‘thinking guess’.

Useful websites

www.syntheticphonics.com

www.jollylearning.co.uk

www.focusonphonics.co.uk

www.parentsintouch.co.uk

www.phonicsplay.co.uk

(some good interactive games for children to play)

http://www.kenttrustweb.org.uk/kentict/content/games/phaseTwoAs1_v2.html

Thank you for coming!

Please take

- a handwriting mat
- a sounds mat
- a handout

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask.