

Reception 'Donaldson' Weekly

Newsletter - 23.2.24

What have we been up to this week?

This week we have been reading Little Red Hen

In Phonics this week we have been reading words with double letters and longer words. This week our focus words for spelling and writing have been words such as **bigger, shimmer, cannot, buzzer, laptop, and fantastic**. *Please see the attached home learning sheet to help you practice these at home.*

In Literacy we have been learning the story of Little Red Hen. We have drawn a class story map to help us and have been retelling the story using our Talk for Writing actions and other actions to help us remember. The children will be asked to re-tell the story independently next week.

In Maths we have been counting to 30, spotting patterns when we count and revisiting how we count carefully. We have also been learning about one more and one less to 10 making it explicit that one more is when we add one more and one less is when we take one away. We have done this with our fingers, with cubes and relating back to our work on staircase patterns.

We have started our new theme for the half term - I wonder why things change. So far, we have learnt about how the seasons are changing from winter to spring, how farm machinery has changed from past to present and also how wheat changes as it grows and we can change wheat into flour and flour into bread as part of our work on Little Red Hen. We have learnt about what farms are for and what they produce to help us live.

Next week we will be...

- Reading words with two or more digraphs (two letters one sound)
- Looking at the composition of the number 8 and representing 8.
- Learning about height.
- Continuing to read Little Red Hen and starting to innovate the story and writing the story from our story maps.
- Learning about food from farms and farm animals

Ways to help at home...

- **Read! Read! Read!** This is the biggest thing you can do to support your child's learning journey!
- Practise the phase 3 sounds we have learnt - ai, ee, igh, oa, oo, or, ar, ur, ow, oi, ear, air and er.
- Practice letter formation
- Practice number bonds of 5 and doubles to 5.
- Count to 30 out loud.
- Think about where the food you eat comes from

Requests and reminders:

- Please note there are two sheets for homework this week.
- Just a gentle reminder once again that we expect the children to be reading to you at least three times a week, but ideally 5 times a week. This should be their decodable school books and supplemented with other books that they may want to share with you. It is vital to the children's development at this stage that they are reading as much as possible - ideally every day although we appreciate family life is busy and this may not be possible.
- On Thursday, could the children bring in one item of food such as a loaf of bread, a pack of spaghetti, a vegetable, a piece of fruit, some cheese, a bag of rice, a tin of custard etc for our work on where food comes from. (We will return all foods - they won't be handled or consumed) Thank you

Mrs Gwynn ☺