

# Foundation Stage News

February 24<sup>th</sup>



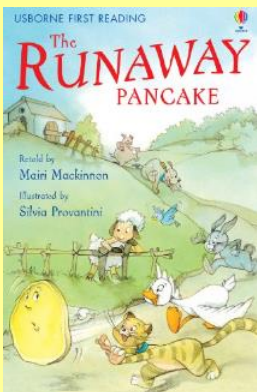
## The Runaway Pancake

The children have enjoyed learning about the Christian festival of Shrove Tuesday, observed at the beginning of Lent. They learned that this is a Springtime festival in the run up to Easter.

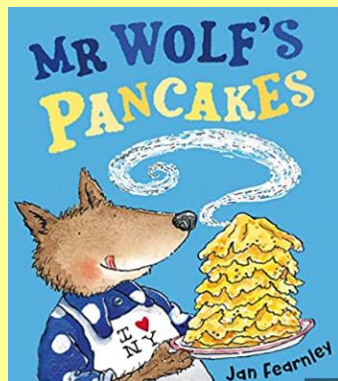
We began the week reading the traditional Scandinavian tale, 'The Runaway Pancake'. The children noticed it had many similarities to the story of the Gingerbread Man and were excited that they could predict events and phrases from the story from their prior knowledge.

## Books we shared this week

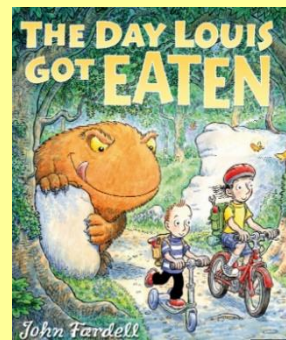
Below are the books we have shared this week. It is always good to revisit these books at home so that you can have conversations with your child about their experiences in school. If you do not have these books at home you may be able to find them at your local library or often there are video versions by searching the title on YouTube.



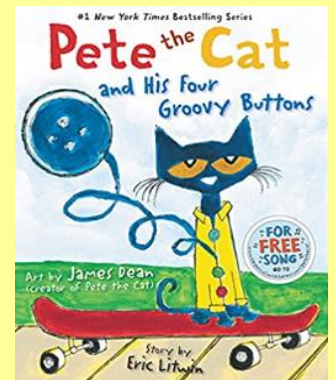
'The Runaway Pancake'  
by Mairi Mackinnon



'Mr Wolf's Pancakes'  
by Jan Fearnley



'The Day Louis Got Eaten'  
by John Fardell



'Pete the Cat and his Four Groovy Buttons'  
by James Dean

## Songs we have sung this week

Here are the songs we have enjoyed this week. Please click on the links below to go to a YouTube version. You might also find alternative versions which the children will love to sing with you.



[Pancakes Go Up!](#)



[I like pancakes](#)



[Four Groovy Buttons](#)

# Ways to make 5

The children have been learning about the **composition** of 5 this week.

They have been using these two well-known nursery rhymes to illustrate this concept:



[5 Little Speckled Frogs](#)



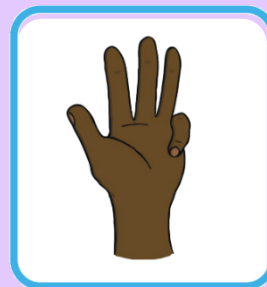
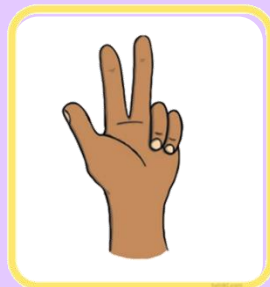
[5 Little Men in a Flying Saucer](#)

As they sang each song, they learned to show the number story on their hand using the phrases outlined below. As they said "There are 5 altogether", they drew a circle around their whole hand with their other hand to show the 'whole' number. This important last step reminds them that they still have 5 despite the new arrangement of fingers:

Five is made  
of 1 and 4



There are 5  
altogether



Learning about the composition of a number (in this case 5), teaches your child that a 'whole' number can be made up from different **parts**. This will lead on to the development of understanding about **addition** and **subtraction**. Additionally, learning these combinations, or 'number bonds' by heart, your child will be developing a mental toolkit for solving number problems with **fluency**. Learning number bonds is a skill which needs to be acquired in order for your child to achieve their Early Learning Goal for Number at the end of this year. Below are links to a couple of songs to support their recall and understanding:

[I like to make 5](#)



[Friends of 5](#)



# Spare clothes

We are running a little short of items of spare clothing. Please ensure you return borrowed clothing as soon as possible. We are always looking for donations of uniform once your child has outgrown them. This includes, socks, tights or pants. Many thanks!

# World Book Day

WORLD  
**BOOK  
DAY**

Next Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March, we are celebrating **World Book Day** (a day after the official date) in school and will be inviting your child to wear a book-themed costume for the day.

Our school has chosen to focus on the story 'The Day the Crayons Quit' by Drew Daywalt for World Book Day. Please follow this link to the story online: [The Day the Crayons Quit](#) Your child might, therefore, like to dress up as one of the crayon characters, or perhaps they have an idea of their own.

In order to promote reading for pleasure, every child in school will receive a **£1 National Book Token** which they can use in many bookstores across the UK. Specially for World Book Day, many publishers have produced books which will really grab your child's interest and which can be exchanged for the £1 token. Please have a look at the titles by following this link [World Book Day Books](#)

The following week, 6<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> March, we will be holding a **book fair** after school in the hall. World Book Day Tokens can be used at this fair. A percentage of the money you spend will go towards a collection of new, quality books in school.

Please do visit the World Book Day website to learn more about this wonderful event. You can access some great family activities by following this link: [World Book Day Family Activities](#)

# Read Write Inc. home learning links:



Please click on the links below to access your child's home learning videos. Your child's group were assessed on Friday and below are the Special Friends sounds they need to practise: [Special Friend sh](#)      [Special Friend th](#)      [Special Friend ch](#)

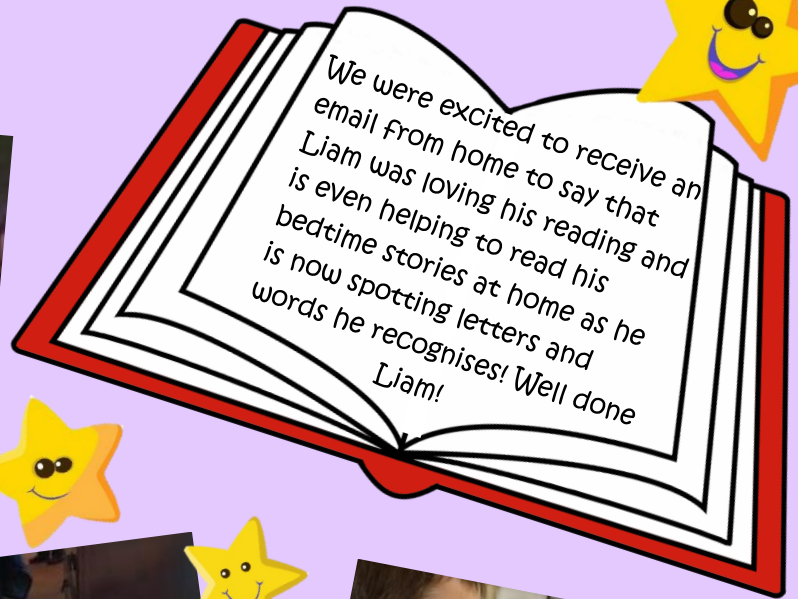
Please support your child to practise their blending skills ('Fred Talk') to read each word and their segmenting skills ('Fred Fingers') to spell each word::

[Word Time Reading I.4 - 1](#)

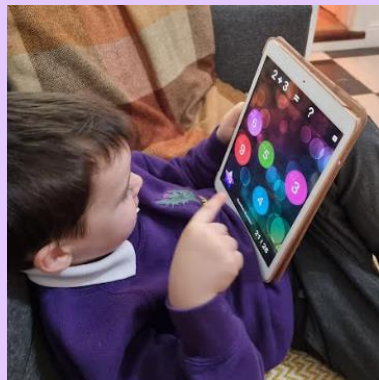
[Word Time Spelling I.4 - 1](#)

# Home learning fun

We love to see what your child has been learning at home with you. It really helps us build such a full picture of their knowledge and experiences. Thank you for the photos and messages sent in so far. We thought you would enjoy them as much as we have.



Isabella we can see how busy you have been involving yourself in lots of fun learning activities at local National Trust properties. We loved to hear that you renewed your Rainbow promise as you watched the sun rise. What a Think-a-docus you are.



Finlay, we are impressed how carefully you measured your ingredients for your apple crumble. What a great way to learn about measures! We can also see you have been a real Think-a-docus, solving your addition number problems on your iPad. Great job!



Lily, what a beautiful ballerina you make! It was lovely to hear about your show during the half term and hear you tell us that you needed to remember to smile as you danced. What a Try-a-tops you are.

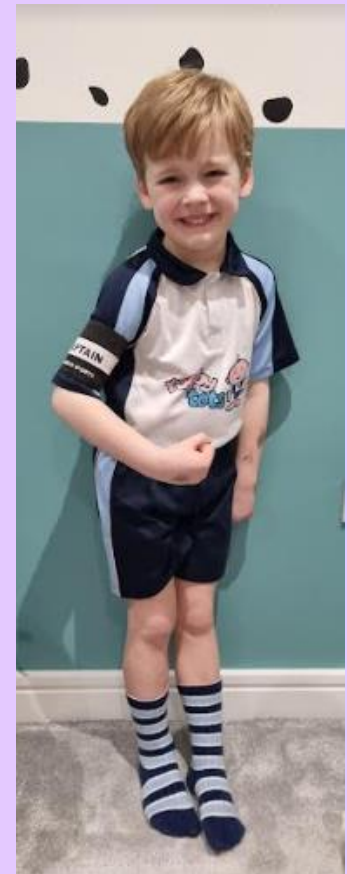


# Home learning fun (continued!)

Zachary, we think you are a superstar earning the 'Captain's Armband' for rugby. We can see how proud you are. We hear you did amazing kicks over the post and you are learning to dodge quickly so that no one can get your tag. What a Solve-a-saurus!



If you would like to share your child's home learning experiences in our Newsletter, please send us an email: [foundation@st-margarets.torbay.sch.uk](mailto:foundation@st-margarets.torbay.sch.uk)



## Our learning this half term

This half term, our new theme for learning will be 'Long, long ago'. The children will become archaeologists and explore what lies under the ground and how it got there! Using clues from a range of artefacts they will think about what life was like long ago. This will include a surprise dinosaur bone discovery! They will also find out about the creatures that live below our feet and how plants use the soil to grow.



Please have a look at our Collectable for this topic which is available on the school website by clicking on this link:

[Long long ago Collectable](#)

You could begin to prepare your child by looking at information books together, or having a dig in your garden to see what you can find. We would love to see your explorations!



We hope you all have a brilliant weekend!



## Fables: Bookshops As They Used To Be.

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