

# Foundation Stage News

October 14<sup>th</sup> 2022

## Once Upon a Rhyme



This week we have come to the end of our Nursery Rhymes mini-topic. Over the course of this topic we have listened to and joined in with a range of different Nursery Rhymes and poems and have used the themes in these rhymes to develop new skills across all areas of our curriculum. To support your child to recall their new learning, please have a look with them at our Nursery Rhymes 'collectable' by following this link to the 'Reception Curriculum Information' page on our school website [Once Upon a Rhyme Collectable](#)

Whilst this specific topic has ended, we will continue to keep enjoying these songs and rhymes throughout the year as they have many early development benefits...

When listening to and joining in with Nursery Rhymes, children will:

- Enjoy the comforting feeling of returning to songs which they heard at home or within their pre-school setting. This will help them to feel settled and safe in school.
- Enjoy the shared social experience of singing together with their new friends and teachers.
- Learn new words to build their vocabulary including words from the past or those which are not in their everyday repertoire e.g. water spout, pail, diamond.
- Tune into the sounds in words, noticing that some words sound the same e.g. rhyming words like cat/mat or alliterative words like 'Goosey, Goosey, gander.' Being able to hear these different sounds in words is an important early reading and writing skill.
- Develop early mathematical skills such as number order, counting, addition and subtraction
- Build their understanding of narrative structures needed for reading comprehension and story writing. The rhymes have a clear beginning, middle and end and children are required to listen carefully and memorise these sequences.
- Develop their physical fine and gross motor skills as they join in with actions with their hands and bodies.
- Begin to develop early musical skills e.g. keeping the beat, exploring the sounds which can be made vocally or with percussion instruments.



## 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 your own alternative versions which the children will love to sing with you.



[Incy Wincy Spider](#)



[Rain Rain Go Away](#)



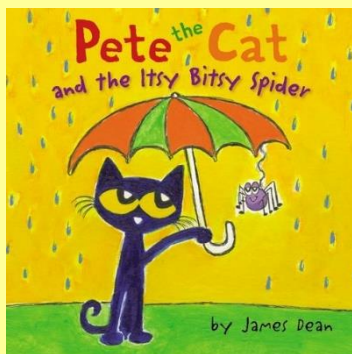
[Little Miss Muffet](#)



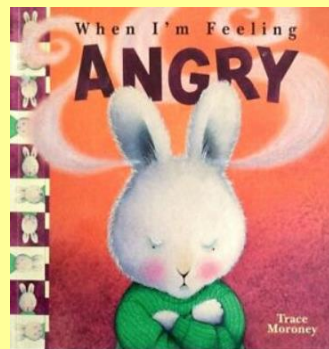
[It's Raining It's Pouring](#)

# Books we shared this week

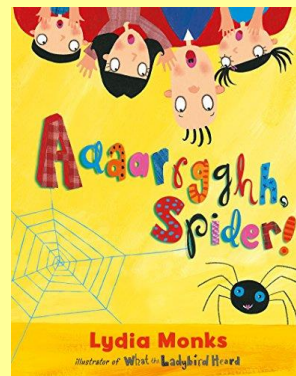
Each week we will share a collection of quality books with the children. They may be stories or information books. We try to link our books to the different areas of learning to help the children to deepen their understanding and to broaden their vocabulary. We also choose stories with no obvious link, just for pleasure. 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.



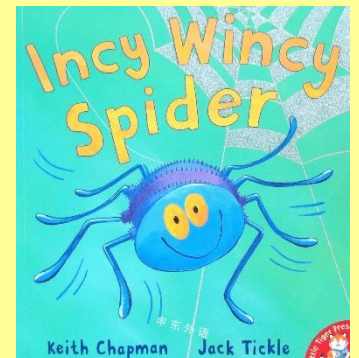
'Pete the Cat and the Itsy Bitsy Spider' by James Dean



'When I'm Feeling Angry' by James Dean



'Aaaargghh Spider' by Lydia Monks



'Incy Wincy Spider' by Keith Chapman

## Read Write Inc. Phonics



Next week we will introduce the pictures and words the children will need in order to go on to learn the letters w, z, x (worm, zebra, exercise).

Last week we taught the letters m, a, s. Please use the links on last week's newsletter to revise these letters at home.

Next week, in our Speed Sound session, we will be teaching the children to recognise the shape and sound of each of the following letters: d (on Monday), t (on Tuesday), i (on Wednesday), n (on Thursday), p (on Friday).

Below are links to a Read Write Inc. video which you can watch with your child. They will be proud to show you what they have learned. The following links will be accessible for 10 days. Please wait until the day each letter has been taught in school before sharing the video at home: [Letter d](#) [Letter t](#) [Letter i](#) [Letter n](#) [Letter p](#)

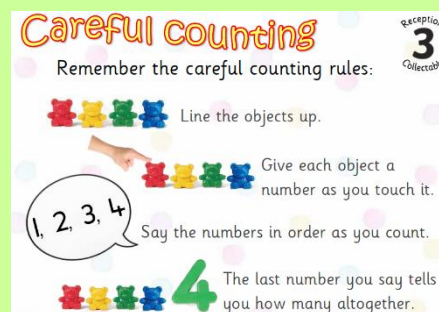
After the children have learned their new speed sound in school, they will then play a game with Fred the Frog. We tell the children that Fred cannot speak in words like we do, he speaks in sounds e.g. We say 'cat', Fred says 'c-a-t'. The children are required to listen carefully to each individual sound in order and put them back together in their head to make the whole word. This early reading skill is called 'oral blending'. Please follow this link to a Fred Game you can play at home [Fred Says Actions I](#)



# Careful Counting

This week the children have been learning the 'Careful counting' rules to make sure that they are accurate in their counting. Please have a look, with your child, at our 'Careful Counting' collectable by following this link to the 'Reception Curriculum Information' page on our school website [Careful Counting Collectable](#).

Encourage your child to practise their careful counting at home or when you are out and about e.g. counting stairs, chairs, toys, cups, cars, doors etc. Start with smaller numbers of objects to ensure your child is accurate in their counting, working towards higher numbers as they become more confident.



# Time for PE



After half term the children will enjoy PE and Dance sessions on a **Wednesday** or **Friday**. Please send your child to school on these two days every week dressed in their PE kit:

- Black shorts, tracksuit trousers or leggings
- Plain white or purple school PE t-shirt

On the **first day back** after the holidays, we would like you to send in a pair of **named** black plimsols which we will keep in school for your child to change into for their PE session. This will mean that they can walk to school on wet PE days in their school shoes and access outdoor play without spoiling their plimsols.

As the weather is getting colder, we recommend tracksuit trousers or leggings rather than shorts. This will mean they are comfortable when learning outdoors later in the day. Your child can wear their school jumper or cardigan over the top of their PE t-shirt.

On PE/Dance days, longer hair should always be tied back so it is out of children's eyes. Earrings should be removed at home on these days.

# Sneezles and wheezles!



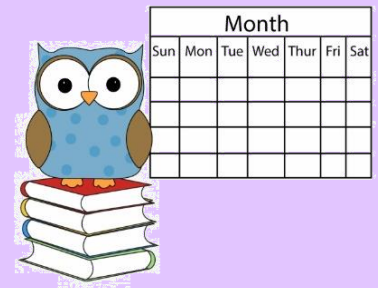
It is that time of the year when the children often pick up common viruses from one another and kindly bring them back home to you. Please could you reinforce the following at home to keep everyone as germ free as possible:

- After going to the toilet always flush the toilet, and then wash your hands with soap.
- Wash your hands thoroughly using soap to make lots of bubbles before washing it off!
- When you cough or sneeze, turn away from people or food, and cover your mouth with your hand or catch it in your elbow. Wash your hands afterwards.

We use the phrase 'catch it, bin it, kill it' which means to sneeze or cough into your hand or tissue, put your tissue into the bin, and then wash your hands.

# Half-Term Holiday!

Well done to all of the children as they have nearly completed their first Autumn half-term! A well-deserved break from school awaits and an opportunity for some quality family time.



You might like to talk to them about the upcoming half-term holiday, explaining to them that this means a whole week away from school spent at home (or anywhere else that you might be going). Talk about and note down any particular events which may be happening e.g. a visit to see family members, a day at the zoo etc.

A calendar will give your child a visual representation of the passing of time – a tricky concept for little ones. They can carefully count with you how many days they have off school, and notice or count-down when they are coming back. This should ease them through the transition back to school after the holiday.

## Super spidery learning!

On Friday, to end an Incy Wincy spidery-themed week, the children had a lot of fun making their own spiders. They followed a set of visual instructions and practised carefully counting out 2 eyes and 8 legs for their spider (some with a bit of support to get this accurate). They all looked fantastic and the children had great fun trying to scare us with their new pets! In our Music and Movement session, the children learned to safely move in a space, scuttle with little steps like a spider, stretch up high to climb the water spout and curl up small when the rain came down.



Have a  
lovely  
weekend!