



# Acorns Newsletter

September 29th 2023



## Read Write Inc. Phonics



The children had super fun learning four new letter sounds and shapes this week (m, a, s, d). We hope they have enjoyed watching the videos at home with you each night as this is a great way to reinforce their learning in school.

On Friday we sent home the first four letter flashcards for your child to keep along with a guide of how to use them at home. Please do keep these cards safely in the zippy wallet as your child will be using them to learn to read and spell simple words later this term. **Each Friday** we will add further flashcards to their pack, so please ensure it is inside your child's book bag on this day.

Also enclosed in your pack were the handwriting sheets for the letters m, a, s, d. We encourage you to find a few minutes to complete these sheets, one a day.

## Books we shared this week

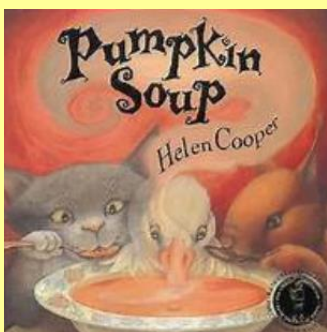
We shared four books this week during Huddle Time. You can find video retellings of these books on YouTube if you wish to enjoy them with your child at home.

**Pumpkin Soup** – a lovely autumnal story about the importance of working together and sharing.

**The Colour Monster** – we really recommend this book for exploring the complexity of our feelings. Each feeling is represented with a colour and as we read, we encouraged your children to recall a time when they felt this way.

**Sharing a Shell** – another super tale about the importance of sharing, working together and using kind words.

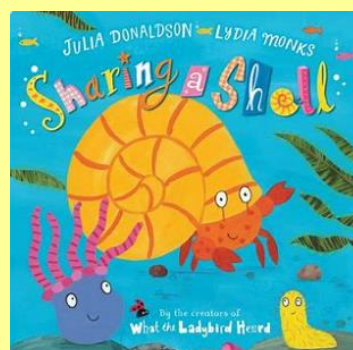
**Leaf trouble** – exploring the season of autumn and the effect on our trees.



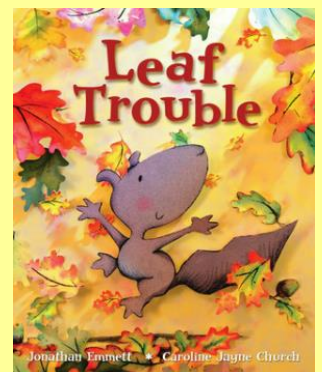
'Pumpkin Soup' by Helen Cooper



'The Colour Monster' by Anna Llenas.



'Sharing a Shell' by Julia Donaldson and Lydia Monks



'Leaf Trouble' by Jonathan Emmett and Caroline Jayne Church

# Songs we have sung this week

In Acorns we LOVE music and singing as it plays such an important role in early childhood development. Here are some reasons why we think singing is so important:

Building their vocabulary by hearing and learning new words.

Exposure to grammar, sentence construction and word order.

Building their knowledge of the different parts of speech e.g. adjectives and verbs.

Strengthening respiratory muscles and optimising breathing.

Building knowledge of the world with thematic songs.

Learning new concepts such as counting.

Feeling good! Singing releases endorphins which is good for health and happiness.

Memory skills are developed as they learn to listen to all the words and remember what they have heard.

Finger rhymes and songs are great for developing the fine muscle movements in fingers.

Developing listening and concentration skills as they tune into the sounds and words.

Big movement songs help to build body coordination, strength and control.

Being able to recall what they have heard in the right sequence – an important early skill for reading and writing.

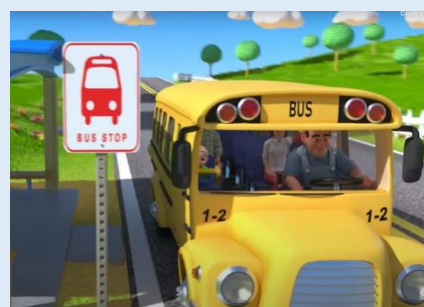
Hearing sounds and sound patterns in words e.g. rhyme and alliteration.

Building confidence and a sense of self-identity and self-expression.

These 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.



[Dingle Dangle Scarecrow](#)



[Wheels on the Bus](#)

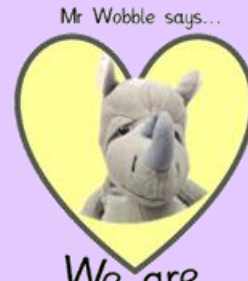
# Our First Two Class Promises

This week the children listened to a 'social story' from Mr Wobble and also from Ziggy.

Mr Wobble told us about two toys who were using unkind words and rough hands.

Ziggy told us about two toys who would not share a school toy.

The children helped to find ways to solve these problems, afterwards making their first two class promises:



We are kind and gentle



We share

**"We are kind and gentle"**

**"We share"**

## Getting to know us

The children are really doing very well getting to know each other and are beginning to learn each other's names. They are still working hard to learn our Acom staff names. Perhaps you could have a look at these pictures together to help your child to learn who each of us is:



Mrs Russell



Mrs Christie



Miss Leworthy



Mrs Heatley



Miss Watkinson



Mrs Heavisides



Mrs Duggan



Mrs Peart



Miss Drennan



# Our learning gallery



Phonics time with Miss Watkinson and Fred.

Look at how the children are using their 'Magnet Eyes' and 'Listening Ears' to really look and listen so they can learn.



We love how you are practising writing your new letter 's' girls!



# Our learning gallery



Following simple steps to make an autumnal prickly hedgehog!

Super sharing.... Waiting with the big sand timer for a turn to play with a toy.

Ziggy says...



We share



Artists at work...Painting autumn leaves! Learning to put on an apron, wash the brush between colours and pop our finished masterpiece on the dryer.

