

Foundation Stage News

October 7th 2022



Being a Share-onyx!

The children are still having lots of fun exploring their learning environment and are becoming very confident at using the choosing board to select which area of the provision they would like to play in.

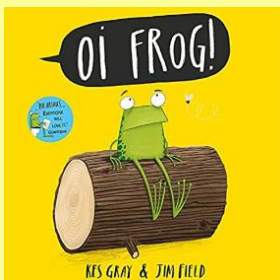
Next week we will be meeting our Learning Dinosaur, 'Share-onyx'. We will talk about why it is important to share toys, experiences and ideas with our friends. Sharing is not always easy for little ones, so Ziggy will be helping them to learn ways to take turns. Please have a look at the story on our school website which we will use next week. You can re-read this with your child any time they are having a little difficulty sharing to support their understanding. Follow this link [Sharing is caring](#)

'Curriculum in Action' page under 'Reception Learning Prompts.'

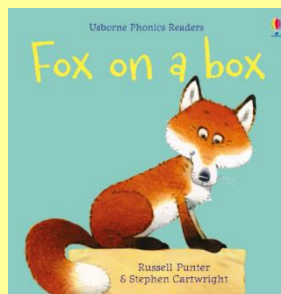


Books we shared this week

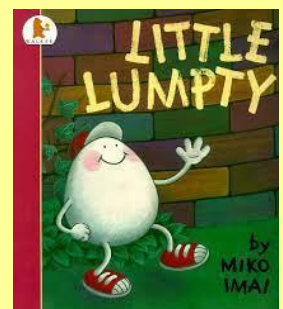
Each week we will share a collection of quality books with the children. They may be stories or information books. We try to link our books to the different areas of learning to help the children to deepen their understanding and to broaden their vocabulary. We also choose stories with no obvious link,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



'Oi Frog'
by Kes Gray & Jim Field



'Fox on a box'
by Russell Punter &
Stephen Cartwright



[Little Lumpty: Click this link for an online version of the story](#)

Songs we have sung this week

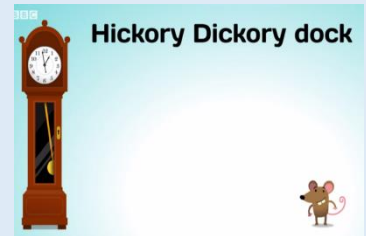
Here are the songs we have enjoyed this week. Please click on the links below to go to a YouTube version. You might also find your own alternative versions which the children will love to sing with you.



[Humpty Dumpty](#)



[Oats and Beans
and Barley Grow](#)



[Hickory Dickory
Dock](#)



[Polly Put the
Kettle On](#)



[Miss Molly Had
a Dolly](#)

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 h, r, j, v, y (horse, robot, jack-in-a-box, yak).

We will also begin to teach the children to recognise the shape and sound of each of the following letters: m (on Monday), a (on Tuesday), s (on Wednesday), t (on Thursday). In Read Write Inc. this is called a 'Speed Sound' session.

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 m](#) [Letter a](#) [Letter s](#) [Letter t](#)

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 Game Body Parts I](#).



Playing Outdoors

We love to get outdoors and explore in our garden or school grounds, whatever the weather. To ensure your child is warm and dry, please send them to school in a suitable coat with a clear name label. Hats and gloves may also be needed soon. Putting fingers into gloves can be tricky at first for little ones. Please practise this at home with your child so that they can be as independent as possible at school. The 'Tommy Thumb' song is a fun way to help your child to learn to move each finger in isolation – follow this link to sing together at home: [Tommy Thumb](#).

During the winter our garden becomes very wet. We therefore also encourage you to send in a pair of named wellington boots which can remain in school.

If you ever have any spares, we are always very grateful for warm coat and wellington donations to ensure we have spare items for an emergency!



Speech and Language Link

At St Margaret's, we recognise the important role that successful language development plays in learning and life. As one of our Prime Areas of Learning in the Early Years, 'Communication and Interaction' skills are developed every day, both through our interactions with the children in play and within our adult led learning sessions e.g., Huddle Time.

Some children in Reception can need a little extra support to develop their speech and language skills and it is important that we get this in place as quickly as possible. In school, we have a dedicated and experienced Speech and Language Team, led by Mrs Christie, who can provide this additional support in a playful and engaging way. They also offer advice to teaching staff and parents regarding ways to help in class and at home.

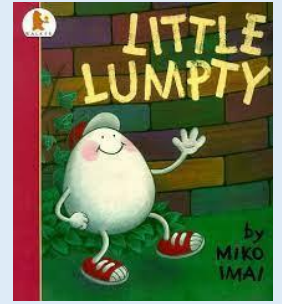
This term, the Speech and Language team will be assessing all children in Reception using an engaging and interactive screening tool called Speech and Language Link. This will ensure we have a clear picture how your child's language is developing.

A leaflet will be sent home this week giving further information about this tool. Mrs Christie's door is always open so if you have any questions, please let us know.



A fun home learning idea

This week the children enjoyed the story of 'Little Lumpty', the young egg who dared to climb Humpty's wall. He was too afraid to climb back down so the other eggs in the village found a blanket for him to jump onto.



Below are a few ideas for home learning linked to this story:

1. Ask your child how they would have rescued Little Lumpty. Perhaps they could draw a picture of their idea.
2. Boil some eggs and decorate them to create an egg character and construct a wall for them e.g. Duplo bricks or containers from your recycling box.
3. Why not see if your eggs can land safely after toppling off the wall. Test the properties of different materials by laying them down as a landing mat e.g. a sponge, a tile, different types of fabric (thick, thin, fluffy, smooth).

We would love to see pictures of your home learning experiences. If you would like to share them with us, please email them to foundation@st-margarets.torbay.sch.uk. Your child can then talk about their home learning during Huddle Time and we will keep the photos in our curriculum book for the children to see and remember.

Have a lovely weekend!