

Foundation Stage News

March 3rd 2025

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.



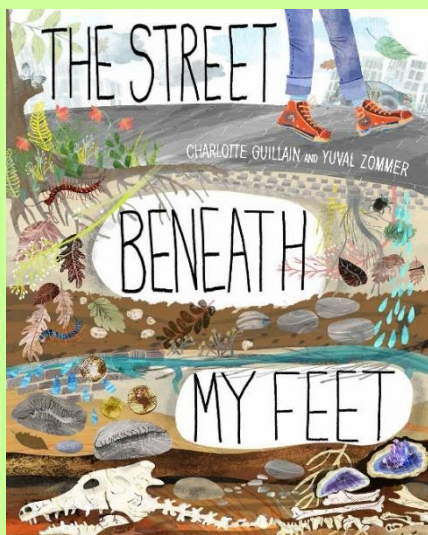
Please have a look at our Collectable for this topic which is available on the school website.



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!

What is down under the ground?

We have launched our new theme for learning this week by meeting the fictional character 'Superworm', the super-strong worm who lives under the ground. The children started to think about what else they might find down in the soil. We have started to read a brilliant information book, 'The Street Beneath My Feet', to help find out more. Please click on the link below with your child to see a video sharing of this book on YouTube.

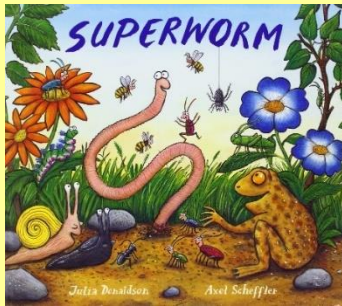


[The Street Beneath My Feet](#)

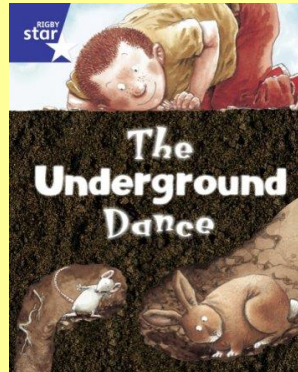


Books to share

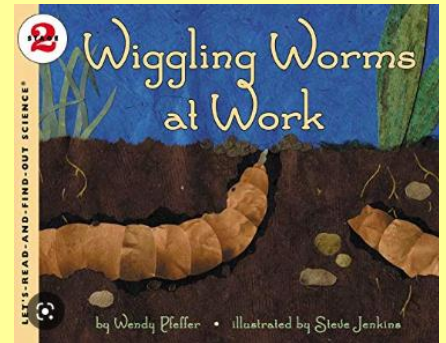
Below are the books linked to our current learning It is always good to revisit these books at home so that you can have conversations with your child about their experiences in school. If you do not have these books at home you may be able to find them at your local library or often there are video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



'Superworm'
by Julia Donaldson



'The Underground Dance' by Tony Mitton

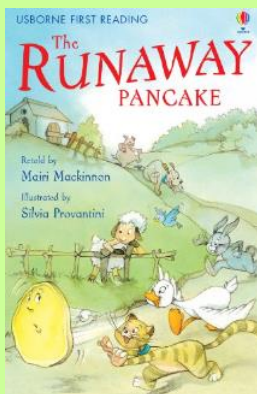


'Wiggling Worms at Work'
by Wendy Pfeffer

The Runaway Pancake

The children will also learn about the Christian festival of Shrove Tuesday this week, observed at the beginning of Lent. They will learn that this is a Springtime festival in the run up to Easter.

We will read the traditional Scandinavian tale, 'The Runaway Pancake'. This story has many similarities to the story of the Gingerbread Man and we will encourage the children to predict events and phrases from the story from their prior knowledge.



'The Runaway Pancake'
by Mairi Mackinnon

Songs to share

Here are the songs we are enjoying in school. 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](#)



Being a Bucket Filler!

Last week as part of our Personal, Social and Emotional development we read the children a wonderful book called 'Have you filled a bucket today?' by Carol McCloud.

“All day long, everyone in the whole wide world walks around carrying an invisible bucket. You can't see it, but it's there.”

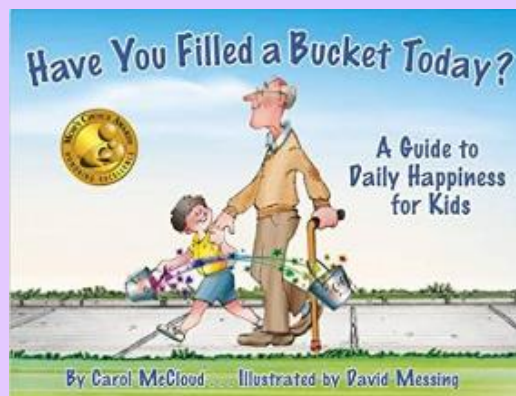
“Your bucket has one purpose only. Its purpose is to hold your good thoughts and feelings about yourself. You feel very happy and good when your bucket is full, and you feel very sad and lonely when your bucket is empty.”

This book explores the concept of kindness and how our actions make us and other people feel. Understanding emotions is complex for little ones and so using the concept of an invisible bucket is a simple and visual way to explain this to them.

We talked about how we can be 'Bucket fillers' by showing kindness with our words and actions, or 'Bucket dippers' by being unkind. The children had some great ideas about this and have busily been trying hard to fill each other's buckets all week.

“Sharing is caring.” Grace

“You can let your friends play.” Harper



“You can kiss mummy.” Frankie

“You can help people.” Elsie

Please follow this link to see the book for yourself: [Have you filled a bucket today?](#)



Read Write Inc. home learning:

Below are the links to some home learning videos to revise some of our special friends sounds:

[Special](#) friend 'oo'

[Special](#) friend 'ee'

Here is a link to a video to help your child practise recognising their red words. These are the words that your child cannot Fred Talk and they just have to remember them. We say to the children "you can't fred a red."

[Red](#) word video

Read Write Inc Workshop for parents



We would like to invite you in to attend a phonics workshop on **Wednesday, 12th March at 3.30pm** for around 20 minutes. During this workshop you will find out about how your child is learning to read and write at school.

We aim to really promote the importance of reading at home during this workshop and we will discuss ways to support your child with this at home. Reading has lots of benefits for a developing young mind and is a key part of your child's development. Reading helps to develop many skills including, imagination, listening and attention, speech and language and social skills.

We will also talk about the importance of handwriting and the expectations for this in Reception.

We hope to see you all there and we once again thank you for your support.

Our Learning Journey

Look at these bear drawings. We looked at using our pencil with different amounts of pressure to create different shades of brown.



Following instructions to create a model using the K'nex.

Thank you to everyone who joined our end of term curriculum celebration event. We hope you enjoyed seeing our learning all about Chinese New Year.

We learnt how to mix red and white to make pink when painting our cherry blossom trees.

We used our fine motor skills to create some kindness crowns.



Team work and some excellent little project managers in the making here!



After reading the 'Have you filled a bucket today?' story we enjoyed making our own buckets and used them to post kind messages and smiley faces to one another.



We have been using the dice to practise our subitising skills. We then grouped the hearts to show different arrangements of numbers.



Have a lovely week everyone!