

## Reception Newsletter

7<sup>th</sup> October 2021

A note from Mrs Cunningham

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a busy month September has been for CPS! Our swimming pool build is well under way and due to complete this Spring. Our CPSPA are already planning numerous events for parents, families and for our children throughout the year - what a great team they are!

We are constantly updating our website and this is a great 'go to place' for school information and dates. Please also refer to our CPS weekly newsletters as these contain a lot of useful information for you too.

We have welcomed 45 new reception children into Willow and Holly Class - all have settled incredibly well. I have enjoyed popping in to see them learning through the wide variety of learning opportunities across the provision. I am frequently on duty at lunchtime and I am impressed with how many have a go at cutting and can use a knife and fork correctly!

I already treasure our Values assemblies; the children are already learning about our CPS values. Last Friday, one child said 'I'm proud my friend got a certificate'.

The weather has been unusually wet and this week we faced the challenge of flooding both in Red Acorns Room, the Nursery Foyer and across the school site. Surrey came out last week and put down sand bags and again on Wednesday to assess the damage, look to solutions and to deliver dehumidifiers. Their suggested plan is to add an additional drainage gulley near Nursery as well as looking for a solution before the water reaches the school. They have now agreed this is urgent - how quickly this work will be however is yet to be seen.

We are committed to working closely with you and welcome feedback. I have received a lot of supportive communications regarding our new reports, early parents evening, how well the children have settled and are enjoying learning opportunities and especially Mini-Woodies.

We feel privileged to be sharing your child's learning journey with you. Your support means a lot to us.

Kind Regards,

*Mrs Sandra Cunningham*

Head Teacher



This week we have been focusing on learning about our body. The children enjoyed playing games to develop body awareness such as Simon Says, Move like Me, and Right or Left.

In English, we listened to the story 'Funny Bones' and the children drew their story maps to retell the story in full sentences. The children also created their own Skeleton Adventures and used the words 'First', 'Next' and 'At' at the end to sequence their adventures.

In Phonics, we learned the phonemes 'e', 'u' and 'r', the diagraph 'ck' and the tricky word 'l'. We blended and segmented the phonemes together to read and write different words such as 'duck', 'pack', 'mud', 'rug', 'red' and 'pick'. We continue to practise letter formation of individual phonemes/diagraphs. We encourage all children to use their phoneme fingers to sound out the words before they write them. This will give them the confidence to attempt writing independently. When practising writing at home please do not spell words or allow your child to copy words.

As the children are learning four new phonemes every week, it is really important that they practise with the flashcards and reading sheets every day. Please write in their reading journals the phonemes practised/words read and how your child is able to read/recall phonemes.

In Mathematics, we have been learning how to represent the numbers 1, 2 and 3 in different ways. Developing a deeper understanding of each number will help your child to understand number bonds and to be able to solve mental mathematical problems.

In Mini-Woodies, the children explored the mini-woodland area independently while keeping themselves safe. They were encouraged to make decisions and to talk about what they like and don't like in the area. We also discussed how we can make the woodland area special and how to keep it clean and tidy.

#### **This week's Makaton sign is:**

Home



#### **Exciting Words of the Week:**

- Communicate
- Strengthen
- Determined
- Challenge
- Exercise

**This week's Number focus:**

0

**CPS Published Authors of the Week:**

William  
Berry

**Home Learning:**

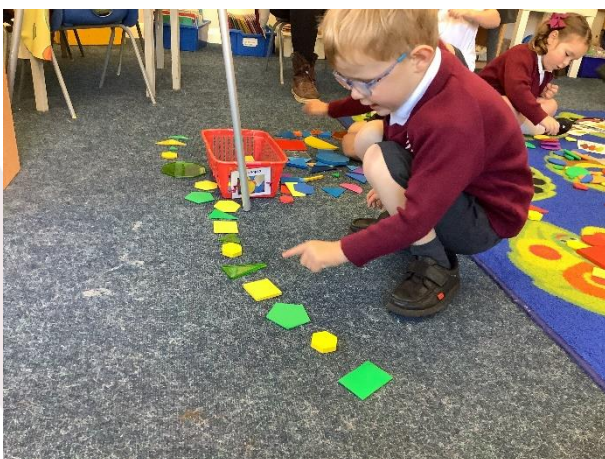
- Practise writing your name – lower case
- Practise phonics flashcards and reading daily – new phonemes/words given out on Fridays
- Doodle Maths – complete the assigned task











## NOTICES:

Miss Dias and Miss Spalton-Woods are the responsible teachers for all reception children. Miss Gardner is teaching some of the lessons in Willow Class and Miss Dias is teaching phonics everyday as well as listening to the children read and popping in throughout the day to ensure the high quality of teaching, learning and provision in Reception.

As a team we communicate daily about the day, learning and the children. We also ensure that all messages/concerns are shared between teachers and support staff.

**Spare clothes** – Each child should have their own set of spare clothes (top, bottom, underwear and socks) labelled in school. Please label all clothes and shoes.

**Water bottles** – Please ensure that your child has a water bottle every day in school. Please support us in teaching your child to understand when they need to drink water and to be independent with their self-care.

**Practice at home** – In reception we promote autonomy and independence throughout the day, please practice at home how to open lunch bags, cut food, open yogurt pots and put on coats and bags.

**P.E.** – Will start after October half-term. Holly Class will be on Tuesday and Willow Class will be on Wednesday.

**Instagram Account** – Claygate Primary School has a dedicated Instagram account for EYFS. Please follow us and see what our EYFS children are learning.  
@claygate\_primary\_school\_eyfs

**Parent communication** – Please remember if you have any questions or concerns you should first contact your child's class teacher followed by the EYFS leader. We are happy to discuss any questions that may arise regarding your child's learning.

**Illness** – If your child has any of the three Covid-19 symptoms (persistent cough, high temperature or loss of smell or taste) they need to self-isolate for 10 days or return to school with a negative test result (send a copy of the result to the office).

We thank you, as always, for your continuing support.  
Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries.

Willow Class and EYFS Leader – Miss Dias  
Holly Class – Miss Spalton-Woods

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