

## Reception Newsletter

27<sup>th</sup> January 2022

This week we have been focusing our learning on boats. We listened to the story 'Who sank the boat?' and discussed why the boat sank. Then the children independently investigated sinking and floating.

In Phonics, we finished learning phase 3 phonemes and introduced 'dd', 'mm', 'tt', 'gg', 'bb'. We also reviewed all phase 2 phonemes and learned the tricky words 'are', 'sure' and 'pure'. We continued to sound out and blend words to read such as 'rabbit', 'carrot', 'ladder' and 'hammer'. The children wrote sentences using the phonemes and tricky words learnt.

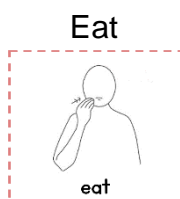
The children are now taking part in group reading sessions to support their decoding and prosody skills. When listening to your child reading at home please encourage your child to read by sight and to read back the sentence read.

In Mathematics, we have been learning about comparing weight on a balancing scale. The children listened to the story 'Balancing act' and used key vocabulary 'heavier than', 'lighter than', 'heaviest' and 'lightest' to compare the weight of 2 objects.

On Wednesday, we learned about winter. The children listened to the story 'Winter Animals' and we discussed why some animals hibernate. The children created their own hibernation book and enjoyed a variety of winter activities such as painting snowflakes, making dens for animals and exploring snow dough. We ended the day drinking hot chocolate!

In Mini-Woodies, we have been making bird feeders to encourage birds into the woodland area in anticipation of the Big Bird Watch.

### This week's Makaton sign is:



### Exciting Words of the Week:

- Petite
- Tradition
- Benefit
- Splashing
- Aircraft

**This week's Number focus:**

18

**CPS Published Authors of the Week:**

Kate  
Woody

**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:

**February Parent Consultations** – If your child has their birthday in February or August the class teacher will contact parents nearer the time to book a parent consultation slot. The meeting will be on 23<sup>rd</sup> February.

**Phonics books** – In school your child takes part in group reading sessions. Twice a week your child takes part in a group reading session. They will have a second phonics book for reading in a group.

Your child will receive a new book on session 1 and should have the same book to take part in the session 2. The books are collected on Monday.

Please ensure that the phonics book is always in their reading folders.

**P.E** – This term the children are learning about gymnastics. Our gymnastic sessions take place in the hall. The children take their trainers and socks off so we kindly ask that they wear velcro trainers.

**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.

**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](https://www.instagram.com/claygate_primary_school_eyfs)

**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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