

Reception – Apple Class; Learning Bulletin 16th January 2026

Apple class have enjoyed having their reading books and being readers! Thank-you for your support. We do notice that children who read regularly at home, at least 3 times a week (sometimes this will be different books or the same book) make great progress.

We politely request for your child's reading book to 'live' in their school book bag, as your child might read their book at school, even if they have not read the book at home first. After your child reads their book at home, we ask for the book and record book to be put back in their book bag, so that it isn't left at home and your child is expected to bring their reading book and reading record book to school every day. We will aim to listen to your child read at school, two or three times a week.

Please may we ask for water bottles not to travel in your child's book bag to and from school, as they sometimes leak and damage the reading books and reading record books.

Apple class have been practising their scissor skills, cutting out pictures of Polar animals to create a Polar scene. They have practised their pencil control and in Penpals the children have started to learn about the long legged giraffe letters and taken part in dough gym.

Mathematics this week has focused on:

Subitising; https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X9N_IUgD_QM

Pairs; <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/puzzles/hey-duggee-match-the-pairs>

Part, part, whole, addition and subtraction <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/b0blsv9r/numberblocks-series-3-fruit-salad>

Last week Apple class displayed a great interest on Tchaikovsky's; 'Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy'. So this week they listened to the 'Nutcracker' story.

During this week's Jolly Phonics the children have focused on identifying the short vowels; a,e,i,o,u in words, i.e. dog, pig, cat, mud, bed and have been introduced to the 'tricky words' 'come' and 'some'.

This week our focus poem was 'Painting Zebras' by Denise Rodgers <https://www.classroompoems.com/funny-animal-poems.html>

Two of the story books we shared this week;

A pair of pairs and an orange <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k8secm8j-U4>

Ruby's Worry by Tom Percival <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yCSH0hrtDQ8>

In PSED the children will be thinking about their dreams and goals.

Well done Apple class.

Here are some home learning ideas;

- Read and spell 'some' and 'come' – please see your child's phonics wallet
- Explore and use the mathematical concepts; subitising, pairs and part, part whole – the video links above can support this
- Enjoy sharing your child's reading book together!
- Listen to/share favourite story or non-fiction books
- Spot capital letters and short vowels in words in the environment; TESCO, Sainsbury's and in their story books
- Encourage to listen carefully to others who are speaking, and wait their turn to speak