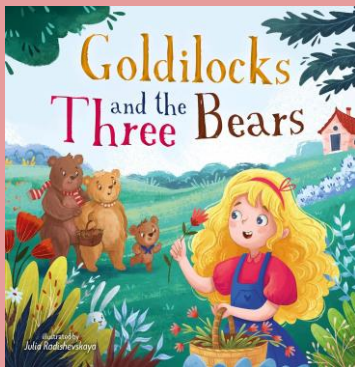




We've had a fantastic week in Reception, with the children truly shining. In PE, we were excited to meet Gail, our wonderful gymnastics teacher, who works absolute wonders with the children. She will be leading a key number of sessions this half term, supporting the class to build confidence, resilience, balance and a smooth flow of

movement as they navigate different pieces of apparatus. These sessions provide strong gross-motor foundations that feed directly into early writing skills.



Our focus story has been the much-loved classic *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*. It has inspired thoughtful conversations about our own homes and families, celebrating how each one is unique and special, yet all connected by love. The children have delighted in bringing the story to life: acting it out, imagining new endings where Goldilocks becomes friends with the bears, and sharing their ideas through drawing and storytelling. They have also enjoyed building their own bears using playdough—squeezing, rolling, pinching and shaping the dough to create ears, paws and faces. This fine-motor work strengthens hand muscles and supports early writing skills.

In the construction outdoors, the children also collaborated to build scenes from the tale, designing their own versions of the bears' house through rich, imaginative play. It's been a week full of curiosity, collaboration, language building and storytelling—Reception at its very best.

Phonics

In phonics this week we have learnt the 'pure' sounds for: i, n, p and g, as well as practising last week's 'pure' sounds: m, a, s, d and t. Every morning in class we practise the sounds, the teacher will model and the children will repeat, we call it "My turn, your turn". They have also had fun finding objects or naming items/ people that start with these sounds.

Below is a useful link to help you support your child with the *pure sounds* we use in Read Write Inc. We are currently learning the first Set 1 sounds, and using pure pronunciation at home makes a big difference to children's early reading confidence. [Bing Videos](#)

Ideas for home to help reinforce the children's learning:

- Forming their sounds on paper, in sand, in mud or any other sensory material can be really helpful. We've sent home letter-formation sheets for the sounds we have taught so far in Reception.
- Mirror practise: Encourage your child to say the sounds while looking in the mirror. They can observe the shape of their mouth and think about the position of their tongue and teeth when making the sounds.
- 'I spy': Play "I-Spy" using the sounds when you are out and about.
- Write each sound on its own post-it note and pop them on different doors around your home. Your child can use these as fun "passwords," saying the sound aloud each time they move through a door.

We have sent home the Read Write Inc. sound mat and activity sheets to support your child with the sounds we have learnt so far. Thank you for taking the time to practise these at home. Your support really helps to build confidence and strengthen early reading and writing skills.

Maths

In maths this week, we have been exploring sorting, matching, grouping and making sets. The children have used their growing knowledge to sort our collection of autumn treasures from the nature table, looking closely at similarities and differences. They have really enjoyed investigating the objects, talking about what they notice and working together to organise them in different ways.

Questions we have asked are:

- Can you find a match?
- Why do the objects match?
- How do you know that they match?
- What is the same about these objects?
- What is different about these objects?
- Can you find one that is different to mine?

Important diary dates and information

13.10.26 - 4.45pm Reception Reading Parent Session

16.10.26 - Reception Trip - nature walk along the Red House Ramble.

19.10.25 and 20.10.25 - Parents meetings (further information to follow)

22.10.26 Last Day of Autumn 1

23.10.26 Teacher Training Day

w/c 26.10.26 Half term

2.11.26 - Teacher Training Day

3.11.26 - First Day of Autumn 2 half term

18.12.26 - Last Day of Autumn term

Reminders:

- Thank you to everyone who has kindly volunteered to support our nature walk along the Red House Ramble on the morning of 16th October. We will be in touch with further details very soon. If you would still like to join us, please let a member of the Reception team know.

Have a wonderful weekend
Take care, The Reception Team 😊