Nursery Newsletter: 23.10.26

It's been a full-on week in nursery — busy but rewarding! Tired faces often mean lots of learning, playing, and growing going on. Half term will provide a well-deserved rest.

Home Top Tips For Developing Mathematical Awareness based on our work in whole class sessions this week.

- Spot the number 2 on walks, car number plates or door numbers



- Children help you to bring 2 of an object e.g Can you bring me 2 books please?



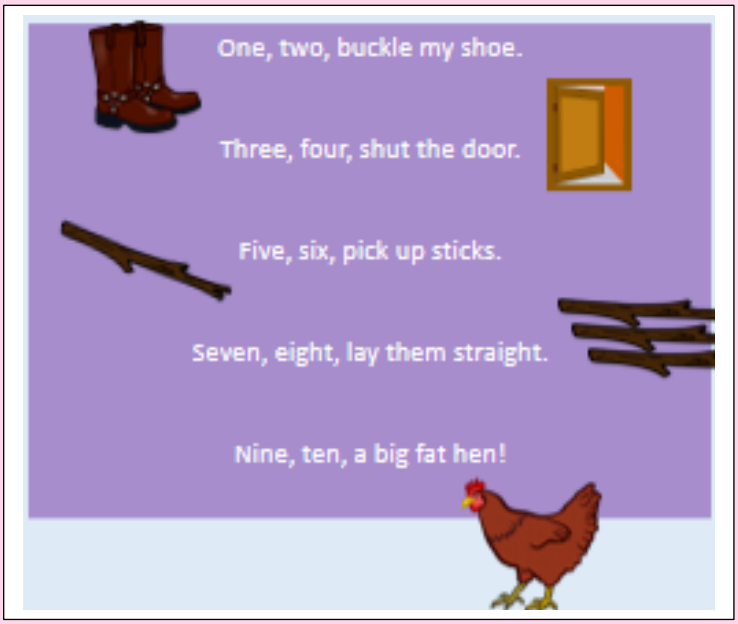
- Dominoes. Spot the ones with 2 dots on them .



- Pairs- discuss pairs of socks and shoes. How many do we have in a pair?

- Try a mathematical rhyme such as below.

Remember : Rhyming is a crucial component of phoneme awareness which, is essential for learning to read and spell.

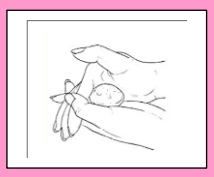


This week, the children have been learning and practising rolling techniques using plasticine. They explored how to mould the plasticine into a ball shape and learned how to use both hands with the correct amount of pressure to create long sausage shapes. The children then used these shapes to make a spider's body and legs, developing their fine motor skills, hand strength, and control while creating their models.

This activity is important because it helps children develop a range of key skills:

- **Fine motor skills** – Rolling, squeezing and shaping plasticine strengthens the small muscles in the hands and fingers, which are needed for writing, drawing and using tools.
- **Hand-eye coordination** – Children learn to control their hand movements and manipulate materials with greater accuracy.
- **Bilateral coordination** – Using both hands together to roll and shape the plasticine helps children coordinate movements across both sides of their body.
- **Physical development** – Applying the right amount of pressure develops hand strength, control and dexterity.





At home you could try: encouraging your child to roll playdough, plasticine or even homemade dough into different shapes. Challenge them to make balls, long sausage shapes, worms, snakes or spiders. You could also use dough to form letters, numbers or simple patterns. These activities help to strengthen hand and finger muscles, develop coordination and control, and build the skills needed for early writing.



Further support at home ready for after half term could include ensuring your child can put their own gloves and socks on. Ways to help them practise and achieve this include:

- Encouraging your child to dress themselves each day, allowing plenty of time so they do not feel rushed.
- Choosing gloves and socks that are the correct size and easy to pull on independently.
- Demonstrating the steps slowly and talking through what you are doing as you model the skill.
- Practising little and often, perhaps before going out or getting ready for bed.

- Turning it into a fun challenge, such as seeing if they can put their socks on before a favourite song finishes.
- Praising their efforts and perseverance, even if they need a little help to finish the task.
- Encouraging them to identify the front and back of socks and matching gloves to the correct hand.

Developing these self-care skills helps children build independence, confidence and resilience, which are all important for their learning and daily routines in school.



Important diary dates and information

Autumn 2 Term begins- **Tuesday 3rd November**

Parent Progress Meetings – **Monday 9th and Tuesday 10th November**

Please note that Nursery will run a little differently on **Friday 11th December at 9.15**. Instead of a normal nursery session, we will be inviting **you and your child** to join us in the school hall for a festive **Christmas Crafts Workshop**.

Together, you will have the opportunity to take part in a range of creative Christmas activities, including making cards and decorations. The event will culminate in a special festive sing-along performance by the children, who will share some of their favourite Christmas songs.

We hope that all parents and carers will be able to join us for this wonderful opportunity to celebrate the season together. More details will follow closer to the date.

Southridge First School
'Proud to Make a Positive Impact'

Have a wonderful week
Take care,
The Nursery Team 😊