

EARLY YEARS EDITORIAL



AVANTI MEADOWS
PRIMARY SCHOOL

EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

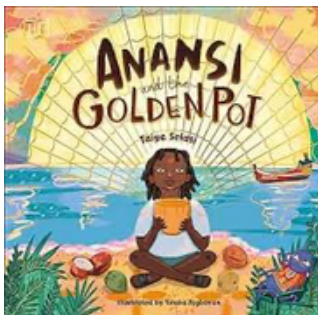
CHARACTER FORMATION

SPIRITUAL INSIGHT

This week's story is Anansi and the Golden Pot. Children learnt the lesson of sharing, and generosity. Children began to make their own golden pots by painting egg boxes and talked about what they would put in there.

Reception Elm Class

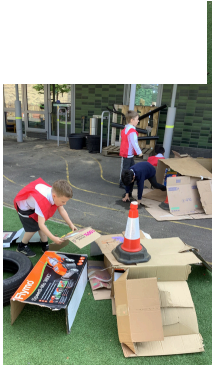
The gold award goes to Amelie Neville for drawing and writing her own number story! Inaya who is always asking interesting questions about what she is learning about.



Children are still exploring what nature has to offer. They are fascinated by their bug hotel and discovered lots of snails. The children talked about the patterns they could see and named each snail! They also thought they found honey in the tree and found out it was actually sap. Freya and Edel discovered it was sticky and some parts were hard.



The children have been enjoying building in the outside area. The children decided to make rockets, shared their ideas of how to fix pieces together and labeled it with paint and chalk sticks.



Phonics Home Learning

Use this link to play phonics games at home... <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/5-7-years/letters-and-sounds>

Here are some links to virtual classrooms should you wish to practise sounds: 'sh', 'ng', 'nk', 'ch', 'th'

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SPIRITUAL INSIGHT

Pre-School- Blossom Class



Children carried on learning through our half termly topic of 'Animals Are Everywhere', by learning and discussing polar animals. Children discussed animals and we spoke about the difference between arctic and antarctic animals. We discussed that animals have adapted to the cold conditions such as thick, warm fur or blubber fat to keep warm.

In Maths, the focus this week was 2D shapes. Children looked at the shapes to know their stated name and looked at their features such as sides. Children were encouraged to make pictures using shapes and look for them in their natural environment. i.e a door being a rectangle. Language children focused on was: shape, 2D, two dimensional, side, flat, curved.



In phonics this week children either completed interactive whiteboard games such as <https://www.phonicsbloom.com/uk/game/match-sounds?phase=1> or continued with read, write, inc sounds. Phonemes (letter sounds) covered for the children in this group will be uploaded on to tapestry for your information.



During children's own learning opportunities, they have enjoyed using plastic balls and the guttering. Most children created a ball machine. When working with the resources (toys) children need to learn the skills of negotiation, turn taking of roles and ideas as well as how to use the resources. Therefore, adult support and modelling was there to help in the learning process.





School News and Updates



IMPORTANT DATES/CURRICULUM CHANGES

PE lessons- Reception children will have PE in the hall each Tuesday. Please ensure they come to school in their PE kit, wearing their plimsolls or trainers. Reception also take part in field Friday – PE kits are suggested to allow for warm, comfy clothing during this winter weather.

Pre-School – children have begun PE lessons in the main school hall on Tuesday mornings. They will continue to be in their normal tracksuit daily uniform.

Yoga sessions – Reception are on Wednesday. Please ensure Reception children come to school in their PE kit, wearing their plimsolls or trainers. **Pre-School** Yoga sessions are on a Thursday afternoon. Due to the young age of the pre-schoolers and the movement of going upstairs to the new 'Lotus' room within the school the class is limited to 15 pupils at a time. They have a choice of Yoga with the Yoga teacher or Yoga within the class (which is a shorter session for concentration skills).

REMINDERS AND MESSAGES

Bug Hotel- Children in pre-school and reception will be constructing a bug hotel from crates, to promote a variety of different insects and minibeasts we would love it to have more materials such as piping, bamboo sticks, concrete, stones, bricks, tiles etc. If any families have any suitable, please give to your child's teachers. Thank you in advance.

Registers- In line with the main school, Pre-School has a 10 Minute soft start to the session. The class teacher begins the register at 8.10am. If you arrive later than 8.15am your child needs to come through the main school so they are recorded in the register. This is for safeguarding reasons. The children have a series of lessons and learning opportunities for the first 30 minutes of the session, such as phonics or maths input, busy fingers and movement break. These are all completed before 8.30/12.30. Therefore your child might be missing valuable learning time.

Collection- Please be reminded Pre-School finishing time is until 3pm. This is when the 3 hour afternoon funding stops. Again, staff do have a 15 minute grace period, but if you are later than this, they are entering in the late play time slot. Staff need to get to other duties or meetings. Thank you for arriving promptly at 3pm.

Labelled items- Pre-school class in the last two terms has grown from 10 children to 35. Please support staff and name all water bottles and clothing items. More than 50% of bottles aren't named and many children have similar bottles or don't recognise their own items at this stage. This is potential for sharing drinks or getting upset thinking someone is drinking from a bottle they might have at home. Unnamed water bottles are being left outside the gate. There will be a permanent pen for you to write names on. Thank you again for your help and support.

Spring & Summer Menu 2024 – Please be advised that our new Spring & Summer menu has been issued and is live in ParentPay for your meal bookings. Please kindly make your meal selections for the week ahead by Wednesday evening. If you have not made your selections before the cut off time your child/children will be served the jacket potato & toppings option. Please can our Pre-School parents ensure they select Pre School Menu > Lunch time within ParentPay. Thank you.

School News and Updates

Golden Expectations

1. **Be kind:** think of others and help them
2. **Be safe:** look after yourself and others
3. **Be respectful:** listen carefully and act politely
4. **Be honest:** think before you speak or act
5. **Be courageous:** keep on trying your best
6. **Be grateful:** say 'thank you'

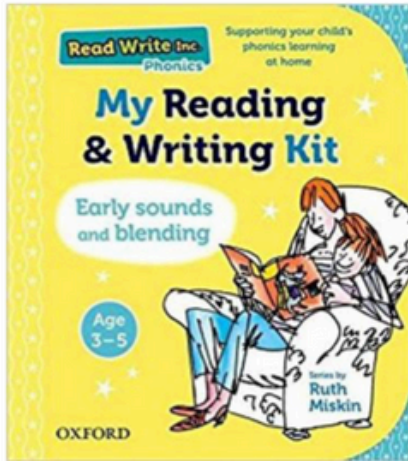


AVANTI BROOK
Knowledge, Virtue, Devotion

Golden Certificate Award:
Pre-School: Oscar and Uriel
Reception: Amelie and Inaya



Parent Kits for any families looking for some activities to do at home to help with reading and writing:

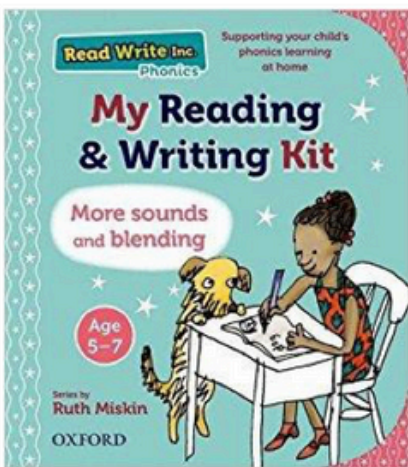


This pack contains:

- Set 1 flashcards
- Set 1 frieze
- Handwriting booklet
- Wipe-clean handwriting sheet
- Dry-wipe pen

This pack is ideal for children who **are learning** Set 1 sounds. This would be appropriate for Nursery and early Reception.

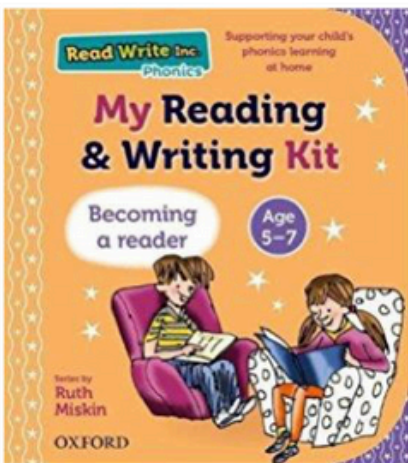
These can be purchased on Amazon.



This pack contains:

- Parent Handbook
- 2 blending sounds books (books that have one word on each page to practice blending)
- 5 red ditty books (simple sentences "I can hop", "I can sit" etc.)
- Reading chart with stickers as children complete and move through the ditty books.
- Handwriting workbook

This pack is ideal for children who **know** Set 1 sounds but who would benefit from at-home reinforcement.



This pack contains:

- Parent Handbook
- 3 green level storybooks (contain Set 1 only)
- 3 purple level storybooks (contain Set 1 only)
- Handwriting workbook
- Set 2 flashcards

This pack is ideal for children who **know** Set 1 sounds and **are learning or are ready** to learn Set 2 sounds.

General Guidance

These parent packs are a great resource for children that are learning Set 1 and 2 sounds, reading Red Ditty Books, Green, and Purple Storybooks. These packs may also help children that need extrapractice at Pink or Orange level.

For extra help for children on Pink, Orange, Yellow, Blue or Grey level, you can purchase flashcards (with Set 2 and 3 sounds) to practice the sounds they already know and teach new sounds. Within the flashcard pack, there is guidance on how to pronounce each sound and in which order to teach it.

Parents can also buy the Book Bag Books which are extra at-home practice stories for all coloured RWI books.