

EARLY YEARS EDITORIAL



AVANTI MEADOWS
PRIMARY SCHOOL

EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

CHARACTER FORMATION

SPIRITUAL INSIGHT

The children are showing they care for their environment by collecting rubbish from the outside area. Freddie spent a long time collecting items and asking the teacher if they were bad for the trees. He came and showed the teacher how much he found!

Reception - Elm Class

The gold award goes to Freddie for taking amazing care of the outside area by collecting all the rubbish to help the trees grow! Kaya for choosing to play safe games and for building new friendships.



Children are really enjoying their morning activities where they complete tasks related to their learning. Independently children made spiders using buttons, jar lids and paper. We then added them to our Anansi and the Golden Pot Display!

WE LOVE THE WORLD AROUND US!
Children have helped the teacher to plant a sensory garden. The children planted lavender bushes and various fragrant herbal seeds. They love to water them to make sure they are not too thirsty. On field Friday they also made a pond with Mrs Brindley!



Children have enjoyed role playing in the vets corner, taking money for x-rays and fixing sick animals. A child even made money out of paper to help with payment!

Children have been learning to take away. They enjoyed a currant bun game where the children made their buns and then ate them counting how many were left. They also played an animal game where they solved number stories!



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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Pre-School- Blossom Class



This week's animal theme is sea creatures and our focus story was Tiddler written by Julia Donaldson. This story is about a little fish called Tiddler, who has a big imagination! Every day he tells a tale about why he is late for school. Did he really ride a seahorse? Did he really meet a mermaid? And who will believe him when he really does get caught in a net?



Vocabulary explored was: imagination, shipwreck, captured, rescued, hauling, glimmered, recognise, escape



In Maths, the focus this week was 3D shapes. While learning about their correct name and describing their properties i.e a square face, point. Please note children have been introduced to this knowledge but the expectation is to have learnt the terminology by the end of Reception. Children looked for 3D shapes in everyday objects and toys. They enjoyed making models and exploring the skills of interlocking parts together.



Phonics focus was continuing to learn Read, Write, Inc phonemes or phase one active listening skills. Children transferring to Reception have covered the following phonemes so far: m, a, s, d, t, ln, p,



During children's learning time they have thoroughly enjoyed messy and fine motor control activities, such as: dry coloured sand, weaving different textured ribbons to make seaweed or coral, wet sand, water, rocks and shells to make a rock pool and scooping up fish using nets.

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).

Transition into Year 1: Changes to drop off and pick up arrangements for Reception (Elm class) children commencing Tuesday 4th June. Please contact the school office if you require a further copy of the letter.

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'

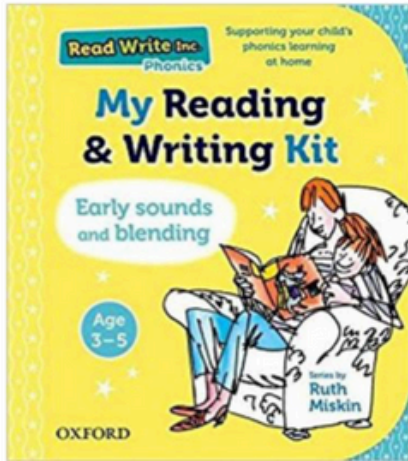


AVANTI BROOK
Knowledge, Virtue, Devotion

Golden Certificate Award:
Pre-School: Demir
Reception: Amelie and Inaya



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

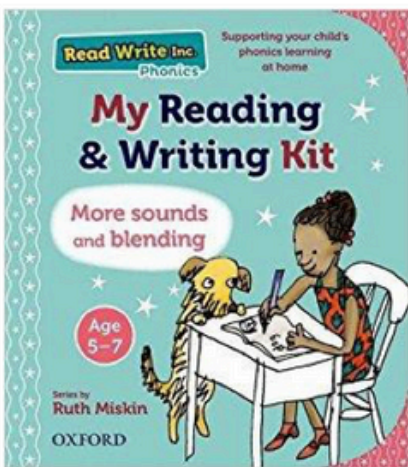


This pack contains:

- 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.

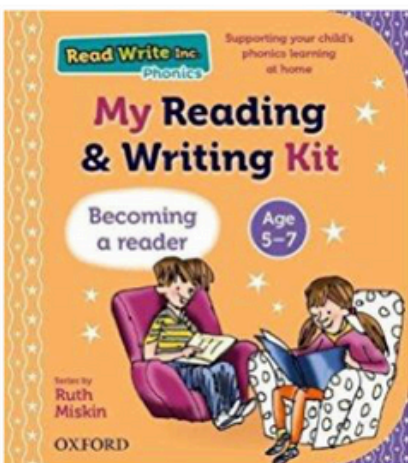
These can be purchased on Amazon.



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.