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Headteacher: Miss N. Morris BA (Hons)
Executive Principal: Mrs M.E. McCarthy MA; Ed.M

Dear Reception Families,

Last week, the children enjoyed listening to The Colour Monster story, and using it to discuss feelings and emotions. They made fantastic counting wands and had regular opportunities to count objects carefully in the provision. Thank you for the autumn treasures you collected with the children over the weekend. The children have enjoyed sharing the photos that have been uploaded to Tapestry with their class.

**Reading at home**

Here is a link to the Little Wandle website, with a video showing how you can use wordless books with your child at home; https://www.littlewandle.org.uk/resources/for-parents/#tabnametabBooksComingHome. Please continue to return books every Wednesday in the plastic wallet they come in.

**Learning**

Please continue to practice name-writing at home (with a capital letter at the beginning **only** please). Children can practice writing their name anywhere; it does not always have to be on paper! Try writing in soap on the side of the bath, steamed up windows, in a tray of sand or chalk on the ground, on big paper using paint. We would love for all children to be able to write their name by the end of the Autumn term.

**Our theme for this term is 'All About Me'**

Our topics are highly influenced by the children's interests therefore activities may change from those planned.

**Communication, language and literacy**

This week will read the story Owl Babies and use this to discuss family and feelings.
We will learn some new vocabulary and Makaton signs including; nocturnal, perch, swoop, flutter, hollow and anxious.
We will draw the owl characters in the book and talk about the tree setting in the story.

**Fine Motor Skills**

The children will take part in activities to strengthen their fine motor skills. These are essential skills to strengthen arm and finger muscles ready for writing. To support this at home children could build with Lego/Duplo, cut using small scissors, dig in soil or manipulate clay or play dough.

**Phonics**

See below for this week's phonics sounds. Here you can also see how we teach the children to form these letters. Have a go at doing this with your child; with your magic finger in the air, on your palm or on each other's backs, using play-dough or chalking on the ground.



down, up and over the helicopter



down the bear's back, up and round his tummy



down the flamingo to his foot and across its wings



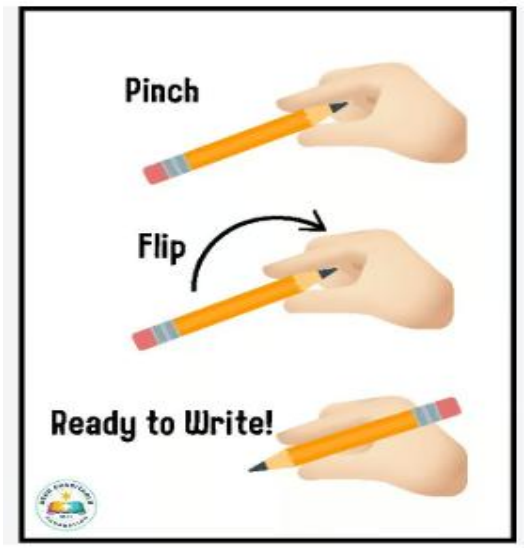
down the lollipop stick

We will also learn to recognise the tricky word "the".

Below is a link to a video that explains what a tricky word is how we teach them;
https://www.littlewandle.org.uk/resources/for-parents/#tabnametabHowWeTeach

## Pencil Grip

Over the year we will encourage the children to use the "pinch, pinch flip" method to pick up and hold their pencil. This a simple technique used in the Little Wandle handwriting program to help children quickly and easily achieve a correct, functional tripod pencil grip.

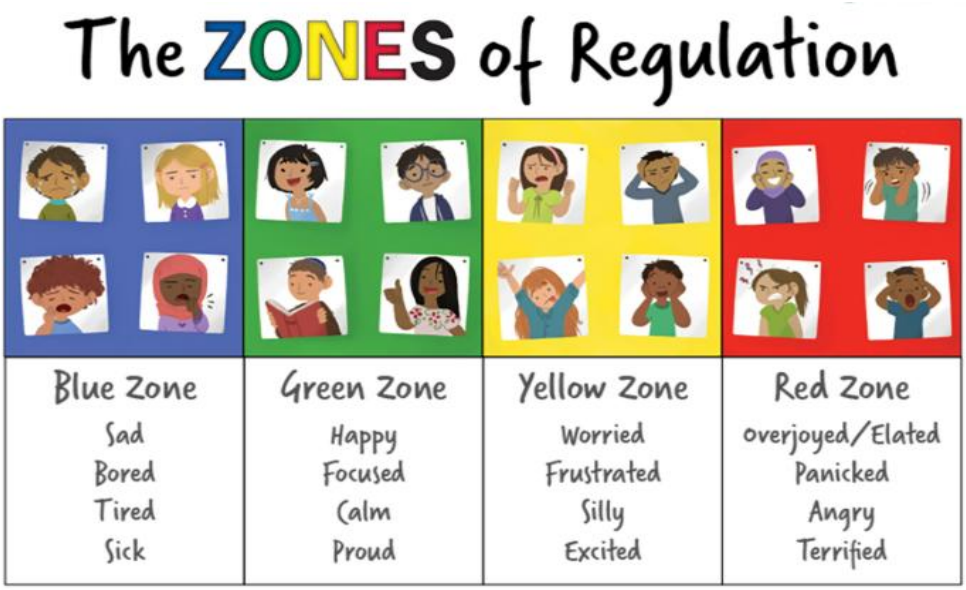





**Maths**
We are focusing on the composition of numbers. The children will explore how numbers can be composed of 1s and, from this, begin to investigate the composition of 3 and 4. We will also continue to practice our careful counting.

**Physical development**
In our PE lesson we will practice our turn-taking and listening skills. We will explore moving in different ways and on different levels and use equipment such as beanbags, hoops and cones to reinforce these skills.

**Personal, social and emotional development:**
We will continue to reinforce the Zones of Regulation, and discuss some strategies for regulating ourselves when we are feeling sad, upset or frustrated.




**Expressive Arts and Design:**
We will create autumn tree art using paint, leaves and tissue paper and coloured paper. We will also collect leaves to print them with paint and use forks to create owl paintings.

**Understanding the World:**
We will explore our forest school and observe the seasonal changes happening around us. We will also learn about noctural animals.

**Notices and reminders:**

-On Wednesday we will go on our first Welly Walk. Please see previous email for more details. Thank you.

- Please label all coats, jumpers (including PE jumpers/hoodies), cardigans, and water bottles. These items go missing regululary and having a name clearly labelled avoids time taken looking for them. Thank you.

-If you would like to put a key ring on your child's book bag, please ensure it is only **one**, thank you.

Mrs Duxon, Mrs Lewis and Mrs Morley