



Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week we took time to remember those who have given their lives to keep us safe and free. The children were very respectful during the two minute silence and showed empathy for others. We talked about why we have poppies and how our poppy money helps injured soldiers and their families.

As part of our topic 'Once upon a time...' we have all shared the story of the gingerbread man and during our independent learning time, your child has had opportunities to construct their own moving gingerbread man with split pins, create their own puppets of the characters and do a puppet show, as well as writing what the characters say in speech bubbles. We have even tried to think of other ways for the gingerbread man to cross the wide, wide river safely. Our favourite part of the week was baking, decorating and eating our very own gingerbread men!

In phonics we have revisited the sounds we have learned so far and practised writing words made up of those sounds. We have found forming some of the letters a little challenging, especially those letters that start with an anticlockwise movement such as; s a d f g o c. It is very important that these letters begin with an anticlockwise movement, as it will make it easier for your child to join their writing when they move into year 1. So, if you do get the opportunity, you may want to practise these with your child. This doesn't have to be with pencils and paper. You could try writing these in the sand whilst on a beach walk, with sticks in the mud, with fingers in shaving foam (marvellously messy!) or with chalk on the patio....have fun!



During our maths sessions, we have been adding two groups together by counting all of them to find the total; understanding that the amount becomes more. We have had fun using this skill as we play games, such as working out our scores for the beanbag hoop game and playing games that involve finding the total of two dice. Some children are beginning to take on the challenge of counting on from the biggest number when they roll two spotted dice and counting "5...6, 7"

### Home Learning challenge

To practise recognising, ordering and writing numbers. Begin by asking your child to trace over the numbers 1-5 then to 10 and when ready, extend to 20. Encourage them to have a go at writing their own underneath. Once your child has mastered writing 1-5, 1-10 or 1-20, they could take on the challenge of cutting out the numbers, jumbling them up and then placing them back in order to create one long number line. You could even time your child to beat the speed in which they do this, making it a beat the timer game. They could even race you! To challenge further, you could take one number card away and ask your child to place the numbers back in order to find out which one is missing. Most of all have fun playing with and talking about numbers.

The EYFS Ducklings' team ☺