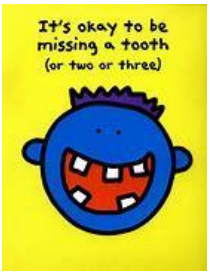


Friday 18th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,



Phew! We have successfully completed our first full-time week in school. The children have been an absolute credit to you and have made us so proud. They have shown fantastic listening skills, embraced new routines with confidence, and filled our classrooms with their lovely smiles as they play, learn, and make new friends.

This week we have been exploring what makes me a me? Through stories, we are learning that we are all unique with similarities and differences but that together we make a great team! During our independent learning time, we are learning to share and wait patiently for a toy and have been practising asking our friends; "can I have turn/go when you have finished?"



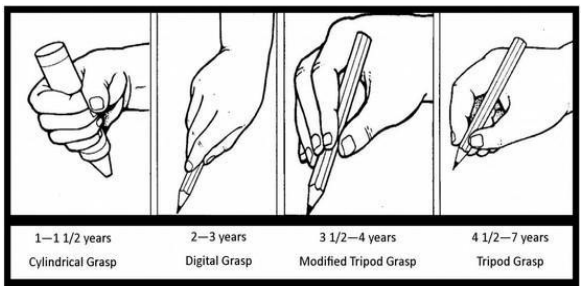
We are continuing to work on using our fingers to show how many, as we sing songs such as; 5 big hippos and our favourite Hickety Pickety. We have been saying our numbers up to 20 each day and practising counting back from 10 to zero as we blast off in our rockets. Please support your child in saying their number names in order as they count stairs on their way up to bed, how many fruits in the bowl, how many cars they see passing etc. The list is endless so enjoy using your imagination! Remember one number name for each object. In addition, we have been matching and sorting collections of objects including buttons and socks! We have found matching pairs and talked about why they are the **same** or **different** to others. The children have also been learning to sort objects into groups based on their attributes such as colour, size or shape considering what is the same about all the objects in one set and how they are different to the other sets. We have also found out that the same objects can be sorted in different ways and tried to think of our own criteria such as what the objects are made from. Perhaps you could make your own collection of objects deciding which ones belong together and explain why.

Having started our phonic sessions this week, your child has been introduced to the letters **s a t p** and the sounds that they make. We have been learning to listen carefully to hear the first sound in a word and even tried to think of things that start with the s a t p sounds such as; **ssssss**un, **aaaaaa**xe, **tttttt**op, **ppppppp**ig. It is really important that your child says these sounds clearly, without adding an 'er' or 'uh' on the end. To reassure you, at this stage we are focusing on the sounds heard <u>not</u> how the words are spelt. If your child says circle starts with the sound s, they are correct, even though circle is spelt with a c. A big well done to those who have been fab phonic detectives and have sent in emails of their wonderful photos of objects starting with **s a t p**.

During PE sessions we have moved in different ways such as walking, running, hopping and jumping; hopping and skipping is proving a little more challenging, so you may wish to practise this at home.

Home Learning challenge

To copy the letters **s a t p** and have a go at writing your own. Please encourage your child to hold their pencil correctly as they do so. They can also draw pictures or cut out and stick in images that start with each sound e.g. p pens, puppet, pumpkin, party, pirate. We have also attached a fun I spy game that you can play with your child whilst out and about this weekend.



In your child's bookbag we have given you a cheque book of WOW slips for you to share all the wonderful learning that your child does with you and your family. This could be how your child has practised or persevered to master a new skill; been brave enough to try something new or felt proud of what they have done. Writing one wow slip every couple of weeks to celebrate your child's efforts and achievements will help us to share their learning outside of school.

A reminder that we change reading books on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Your child should revisit the same book on Tuesdays, Thursdays and over the weekend. This is to encourage repetition, fluency and improvement when re-reading.

Have a lovely weekend

Team Puffins