



**Ducklings**  
**Summer 1<sup>st</sup> 2026**

Dear Parents/Carers of Ducklings,

Welcome back to the final term of the school year! This year has gone so quickly! We hope you had a relaxing Easter break and cannot wait to hear what the children have been up to! We are hoping for some warm, sunny days so we can get outside with our learning much more.

**This Half-Term’s Learning**

Our topic this half term is called “Our Wonderful World”



<b><u>RWI phonics</u></b>	Recap set 1 and 2 sounds. Beginning to recognise some Set 3 sounds. Secure blending on words containing all set 1 and Set 2 sounds. By the end of Summer term 1, Reception children should be able to read CCVC or CVCC words by sounding out (including nonsense words). Children will come home with red, green or purple books to practice.				
<b><u>Maths</u></b>	<b><u>Build numbers beyond 10</u></b>	<b><u>Continue patterns beyond 10</u></b>	<b><u>Verbal counting beyond 20</u></b>	<b><u>Counting patterns</u></b>	<b><u>Adding and taking away</u></b>

This half term we will enjoy finding out about the world around us. We will provide the children with a range of real plants and flowers to enable discussion and introduce new vocabulary. We will take a walk around the school grounds and to the Wildlife Area and pond to further extend opportunities to identify plants and animals in their habitats. We will plant flowers and vegetables as part of our Forest School learning.

We will be learning about similarities and differences between places, objects, materials and living things. We will talk about own environment and a contrasting locality noticing the similarities and differences. We will try food from different countries and talk about healthy choices as well as trying the food we have grown ourselves to have as part of our healthy snack.

**Reminder:**

**Forest school will be on a Tuesday for the Summer Term. Please come into school in Forest School clothes each Tuesday morning and bring school uniform in a named bag. Many thanks**

**Adults in Class**

I will be in class each day supported by our wonderful Teaching Assistants. Mrs Flood will be in class on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday morning.

Mrs Rivett will be with us every day.

Mrs Dearman will cover my PPA and leadership time.



### Reading and Home Learning:

- ❖ The children are doing so well learning their sounds with Fred the Frog, using Fred Talk, to help them read new words and using their Fred Fingers to help them spell words. Please continue to use the QR codes at home to help learn our Set 2 “special friends” before we prepare to move onto Set 3.
- ❖ Your child will continue to bring home Ditty sheets and/or a coloured RWI book bag book to read at home. This book has been rehearsed in school and the children should be able to read it confidently.
- ❖ The children will also bring home a “Have A Go” book (not linked to RWI) to share at home. Please use the week to re-read the book, asking questions about what happens in the story, favourite pictures and why etc. This all helps with comprehension skills.
- ❖ The children are also free to choose a book from the class library and reading area to read at home. These books can be changed whenever your child is ready.

### School Dinners

#### Please remember:

**All meals must be pre-ordered (and paid) on the ParentPay website. Any children without a prebooked lunch must have a packed lunch.**

The children can get very upset if a lunch has not been ordered or they do not know what they are having.

#### General:

- ❖ Our PE day remains on a **Monday**– please ensure children have the correct kit and footwear. We will be going outside this term so trainers and a tracksuit will be needed. Please make sure that the girls have socks in their PE bags if they are wearing tights.
- ❖ No jewellery is to be worn for PE lessons. If your child has earrings please make sure these are removed for PE. We are not allowed to remove or cover earrings.
- ❖ Please do name all PE kit and all items of uniform, including shoes. We cannot return missing items if they are not named.
- ❖ Long hair is to be tied up (with an appropriate coloured and sized hairband) at all times during the school day.
- ❖ Your child will need a named bottle filled with **water** every day. This will be kept in a tray in the classroom. They will be able to access and refill their waterbottle throughout the day.
- ❖ A plea – we have no spare socks (grey or white) left at school in our “spare clothes” drawer. These are often sent home after an accident but we very rarely get them back. Could you please check at home and see if you have any that could possibly belong to school. Many thanks.
- ❖ A reminder, if you know that someone different will be collecting your child, please inform the school office who will get the message to us.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to send an email via the school office ([office@downham-ceap.essex.sch.uk](mailto:office@downham-ceap.essex.sch.uk)) or catch us at the end of the day once all the children have been collected.

Here is to a happy and exciting half term!

Mrs Applewhite and the EYFS Team