

## Reception Newsletter – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2026

### RE - Jesus' Ascension to Heaven

This week we thought about Jesus returning to His Father in Heaven. Before Jesus ascended to heaven, he told His disciples that God would send a special helper. The children are intrigued to find out who the special helper might be - I've told them they need to wait till next week to find out!

The Wednesday Word for this week is '**friendship**'. We talked about how we could show friendship to others. The staff have been watching children carefully to congratulate children for showing friendship to others: EG picking up someone's coat for them, asking children if they'd like to play with them, having fun with friends, sharing, taking turns etc.

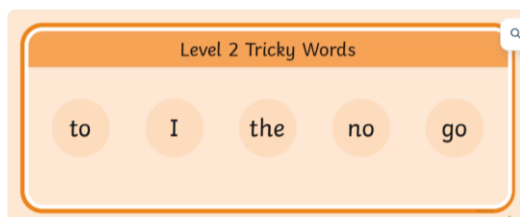
<https://wednesday-word.paperturn-view.com/friendship?pid=MTA101634&v=210.1>



### Phonics – Level 3

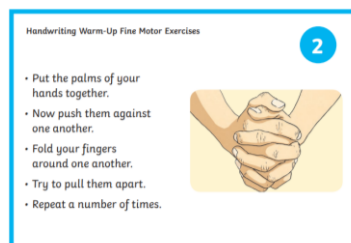
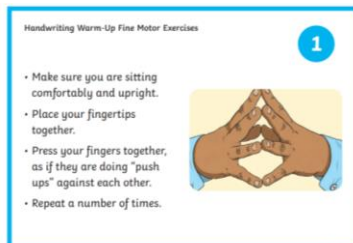
This week Miss Khan led the review of our Level 3 sounds - '**ai**' & '**ee**'. You might want to play the games on [www.phonicsplay.co.uk](http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk) to help your child practice reading words using these sounds or want to do the dictation challenges using these sounds to help reinforce them.

The children are becoming more confident at reading the tricky words on sight. We are now working on writing them independently. This week we looked at '**was**'. The tricky part is the 'a' in the middle of words.



### Handwriting

This week we continued with our 'Funky Finger Gym' to strengthen the muscles in our fingers by using pegs to pick up pom poms. Below are a some of our whole class exercises we do before we write. You might want to try them at home.



We have practiced the letter '**r**' using the correct formation. Don't forget to start writing this letter at the top and sit it carefully on the lines when writing it. Ask your child to show you how to do it – 'Down robots body up and over his arm'.

## Maths

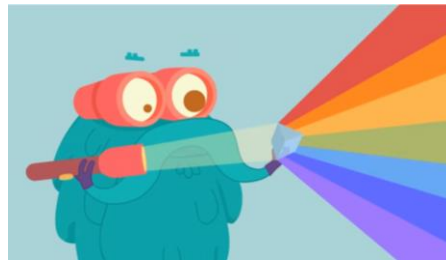
This week Miss Jan led Maths. We continued learning how to add objects together using cubes. The children are starting to become more independent and confident at completing simple addition sums within 10. It's also wonderful to see so many children knowing some number bonds by heart. Next week we will complete some simple number problems using addition skills.

## Understanding the World – How do Animals and Plants Grow in Spring – Rainbows & Chicks

We finished learning about rainbows, how they're formed and finished making our class paper chain rainbow. The Dr Binocs video helped the children understand how rainbows are formed. We had fun looking at how the sun creates rainbows on the surface of bubbles outside. There is a lovely little experiment that needs to be done in the dark you might like to try at home.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9mruaPDxoEw>

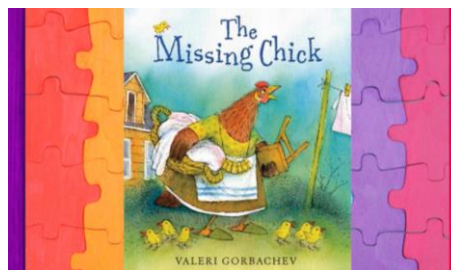
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nCPPLhPTAik>



We then moved to learning about new life in spring with a baby chick focus. Our main text was 'The Missing Chick' and we shared a variety of short stories trying to repeat speech using appropriate voices for the different characters. The children learned how to draw a chick, made chicks using fork printing and drew chicks on the interactive whiteboard.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IEey4LZLeGw>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ouRMtDjfl6c>



## General

Please note there are some changes to dates of some events in school next week:

- **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May** - Rec & Y6 Mass at Church 9am. Please take children directly to church and NOT to school (unless in breakfast club - these children will walk to church with staff). Please do not arrive before 8.45am and do not leave children (even with other parents) until staff arrive. Reception will meet in the church hall. You are welcome to stay for Mass. Children will walk back to school with their Special Friends
- **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May** - Celebration Assembly for Summer 1 at 9am. Parents and family are welcome to attend - especially those children who are being awarded the Head Teacher award for this half term **Note the change of date**
- **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May** - St Anne's Feast Dedication Day Whole School Mass followed by May Procession and celebrations **Note the change of date**
- **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May** - Journey through Time Day **Moved to next term**
- **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May** - Break up for half term at 3.15pm

Mrs Turley