



## Wren Class Newsletter - Week Beginning 18/04/2016

This week we have been busy looking at the animals we can find in our immediate local environment. We really enjoyed a mini-beast hunt around the school grounds where we introduced the children to the idea of micro-habitats and encouraged the children to look carefully at micro-habitats around school. We have talked to the children about the basic needs of animals and established that all animals need food, air, shelter and water. We also talked about what makes an animal a living thing.

The children have really enjoyed the 'Egg Drop Challenge'. They have really impressed us with their innovative and thoughtful design ideas and we would like to thank you all for your support in helping your children select resources and thinking of ideas. The highlight was watching the children drop their contraptions from the top of the climbing frame and finding out whose egg remained intact!! (We will let the children fill you in on that one!)

This week the text we have looked at has been Chicken Little, we enjoyed reading the story and asked the children to consider what advice they would give to Chicken Little and his friends. We have challenged the children to initiate their own writing based on the story.

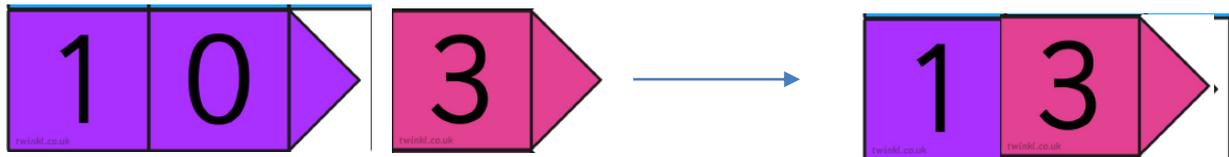
In phonics we have been reading and writing CVCC words and making sure the children can hear and represent the vowel sounds and all the consonants in these words.

In maths we have focused on ordering 3 numbers from smallest to largest and the idea of having a greater number, a number in between and a smaller number. We have also worked on place value of teen numbers and taught the children the idea that a teen number is made up to a 'ten and some more' we have used lots of visual models to reinforce this idea.

Finally.. The children have all loved swimming and were very excited about getting in the pool this week! I am sure they are all going to make lots of progress in the water this term. Just to clarify, our swimming days will be **Tuesday** and **Thursday** and **PE** will be **Wednesday** afternoon. If you can have a swimming kit in school all week that would be really useful - if we have a warm sunny day and the pool is not being used by another class we may well take advantage and put in an extra swim!

### Home learning challenge ... Teen number Challenge

Cut out all the cards on the attached sheet. Begin by challenging your child to make the number e.g. 13 they should recognise that they need a 10 and a 3. They can then select these 2 cards and put them together as shown below.(the 3 sits on top of the 0)  
Repeat with lots of different teen numbers. We have modelled this in school and called the numbers the magic teens as you can pull them apart and put them together!



You can vary the game in lots of different ways by asking your child e.g. if I had a ten and a 7 what number can I make? They can then make the number with the cards.

Challenge your child to illustrate the number e.g. the number 12 could be made using sticks by creating a group of 10 and then 2 more. If you can make visual models of these numbers it will really help your child to see these numbers as ten and 'some more'. Investigate all the ways you could represent these numbers. Take a photo and send it in - we would love to see the children's ideas!



Some of the children are still not reading or chanting the teen numbers correctly. Some of the children are saying e.g. 90 for 19, 50 for 15 etc so please work with your child to ensure they can say these numbers correctly. In school we really over emphasise the teen part so we say **fifteen**.

