

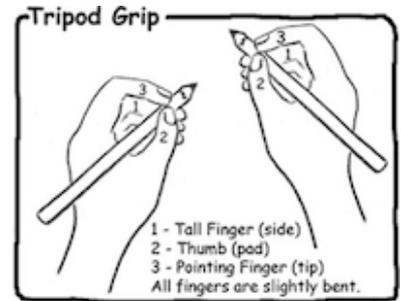


## Derwentwater Reception | Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a fantastic week we have had in reception, the children have settled in really well! This week the children have been working on initial letter sounds and sequencing numbers.

- We have been reading 'Funny Bones' and this week we learnt all about our own bodies. The children have been discussing our body parts and writing labels using the initial sounds of words. Using the sounds we have learnt (m, a, s, d, t) the children have begun writing labels for skin, mouth, teeth, tongue, skull.
- The children have also been looking at germs, how they make us feel sick and how we can stop the spread of them.
- We have been practising our 'Perfect Pencil Grip' when writing and drawing. Use our three 'worker' fingers for holding the pencil or pen.
- We have been practising counting out objects to 5 and have begun using Numicon for counting and making numbers. Every day we are counting to 10 and backwards from 10 and beginning to match numbers with amounts.



This week are stars of the week are:

- Turtles - Esme
- Dolphins - Callie

### Important Information

- Parents evening is next week-you should have received a letter with your child's targets and a scheduled phone call slot with your child's teacher. Please contact us if the time given is not convenient.
- Half Term Dates - This term will end on the Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October and next term begins on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November.
- Resource Donation- We are asking for a donation of £2 per half term or £10 for the year from each child to cover the cost of cooking supplies and other non-reusable resources (e.g bread for making sandwiches or flour and oil for making playdough).
- Please can you bring in a spare pair of clothes in a bag to leave at school in case of emergencies!
- P.E. will be taught every Thursday. Please ensure you are sending your child to school in a full P.E. uniform every Thursday.

Website:



[www.derwentwaterschool.com](http://www.derwentwaterschool.com)

Contact:



020 8992 9196

twitter



@Dwaterw3

Email:



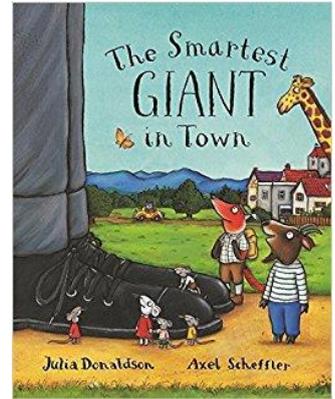
[parentcomms@derwentwater.ealing.sch.uk](mailto:parentcomms@derwentwater.ealing.sch.uk)

## Next week - Beginning 12<sup>th</sup> of October

### Focus Book - The Smartest Giant in Town

Next week we are focusing on the book 'The Smartest Giant in Town'. The children will continue to focus on their name writing and letter formation. They will use this to write their own thank you cards.

The children will also be looking at height, making their own 'tall or short' giant, as well as ordering things in height order.



### Ideas for Home

- Supporting Independence
  - Children getting dressed on their own in the morning
  - Practising buttons and zips
  - Practising cutting skills
  - Children feeding themselves
  - Children washing their hands
  - Children keeping a clean body
  - Children drinking plenty of water
  - Children blowing their own noses

### Key words

These are words you could discuss with your child at home over the weekend

- Tall
- Short
- Giant
- Smart
- Scruffy

Many thanks for your support,  
The Reception Team  
Miss Gibb, Miss Cornford, Mrs Joseph, Mrs Bachoo

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Website:



[www.derwentwaterschool.com](http://www.derwentwaterschool.com)

Contact:



020 8992 9196

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Mrs N Gardner  
Acting Headteacher

Mrs K Hankin  
Acting Deputy Headteacher



9<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Learning to read is the most important skill your child will learn at our school. Everything else depends on it, which is why we focus on making sure that every single child learns to read as quickly as possible.

We want your child to love reading – and to want to read for themselves. This is why we put our efforts into making sure they develop a love of books as well as learning to read.

### **How will my child be taught to read?**

We start by teaching phonics to the children. This means that they learn how to 'read' the sounds in words and how those sounds can be written down. This is essential for reading, but it also helps children learn to spell well. We teach the children simple ways of remembering these sounds and letters. Ask them to show you what these are.

The children also practise reading (and spelling) what we call 'tricky words', such as 'once,' 'have,' 'said' and 'where'.

The children practise their reading with books that match the phonics and the 'tricky words' they know. They start thinking that they *can* read and this does wonders for their confidence.

The teachers read to the children regularly, so the children get to know a range of stories, poetry and information books. They learn many more words this way and it also helps their writing.

### **How will I know how well my child is doing?**

We will always let you know how well your child is doing.

We regularly assess how the children are progressing in their reading. We use this information to decide which reading group they are in. Your child will work with children who are at the same reading level. Children may move to a different group depending on the progress they make. Your child will have one-to-one support if we think they need extra help.

### **How do I know the teaching will be good?**

The school's reading approach is monitored and reviewed frequently to maintain high standards.

If you have any questions, please email us [parentcomms@derwentwater.ealing.sch.uk](mailto:parentcomms@derwentwater.ealing.sch.uk)

### **What can I do to help? Is there anything that I shouldn't do?**

Please watch the short informational video on our web site explaining how we teach your child to read at school.

<https://derwentwater.fluencycms.co.uk/Reading-in-Reception>

**Our vision is to create a community of successful learners who feel confident, happy and safe and who show respect for themselves, each other and the environment.**

Derwentwater Primary School, Shakespeare Road, Acton, W3 6SA

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Help your child to sound out the letters in words and then to 'push' the sounds together to make a whole word. Try not to refer to the letters by their names. Help your child to focus on the sounds. You can hear how to say the sounds correctly at this link: <https://ruthmiskin.com/en/find-out-more/parents/#lg=1&slide=2>

Sometimes your child will bring home a picture book that they know well. Please avoid saying, 'This is too easy.' Instead, encourage your child to tell you the story out loud; ask them questions about the story and what they think about the characters.

We know that parents and carers are very busy people. However, if you read to your child every day, it increases their vocabulary and understanding and can significantly improve academic outcomes. Showing that you are interested in reading yourself and talking about reading as a family can really support your child's enthusiasm and engagement. You can find out about good stories to read to your child here: <https://www.facebook.com/miskin.education>

Yours sincerely  
Mrs Hankin