

With the start of a new month at the end of this week we will be talking about months of the year and the seasons again and will be learning that December is the start of winter, rather than just Christmas! We will also be talking about Advent and the countdown to Christmas this week. The measurement of time can be complicated for children, but Advent is a good time for children to learn that each day in a month has a different number as they count down the days to Christmas. As you may have noticed or heard from the children, we learn about the date each day, but this month might be a good time to reinforce this talk about time at home. You could try to make links to things they already know, for example. 'It's day number nine today, the ninth; your birthday is the ninth day of another month...which month is your birthday?' 'Which season do you think your birthday is in?' and so on. Each child will get to open our class calendar through December. So, they will come home with something from the calendar on their day.

We will also be thinking about 'My Day'. We will be working on developing the language of time and learning to sequence familiar events. Children will be encouraged to think about the sequence of usual events in a day, as well as things we do each day to keep healthy (sleep, wash, eat well, drink, exercise etc.).

The children will also be working hard learning their song words for our Nativity play 'Born in a Barn'. Information about tickets will be with you shortly via parent mail. We anticipate we will be able to offer 2 tickets for each performance and parents will be free to swap with each other to enable four people to come to one performance if that is preferred. Look out for confirmation this week.

Best wishes

Ellie Green & Kelly McIlroy



This week we will be doing lots of work on recognising numerals and accurate 1:1 counting. You could reinforce this as much as possible in everyday life. Here are some simple ideas: -

- 1. Muffin tin maths** – For a tasty maths activity try counting out chocolate chips into a muffin tin labelled with numbers.
- 2. I-spy Shapes** – Play this traditional game but look for” ...something shaped like a circle”
- 3. Shoe Cupboard Tidying** – Tidying and sorting shoes, whilst you chat about them is the perfect maths activity for a clutter free entrance hall.
- 4. Table laying** – Arranging cutlery on the table is another useful maths activity for developing sorting skills
- 5. Sandwich Making** - When making a sandwich for your child, ask them to help you cut it into halves or quarters (or even eighths!)
- 6. Bring Me 5** – Choose a number, such as 5, then ask your little one to bring you 5 cars, 5 books, 5 blocks or 5 of anything they can easily carry! (Go lower if 5 is too hard or higher if too easy)
- 7. Time Announcing** – Start by announcing the time when you see it's at the hour, “It's 12 o'clock! Time for lunch, It's 7 O'clock, time for bed etc..”
- 8. Hopscotch** – Children will enjoy helping to draw a hopscotch grid and then hop from number to number, forwards then backwards.
- 9. Number Hunting** – Draw a number 4 on a piece of paper, then hide the number behind a cushion (perhaps not completely hidden). Help hunt for Number 4. If you make 2 sets your child could hold one and find the matching one.