



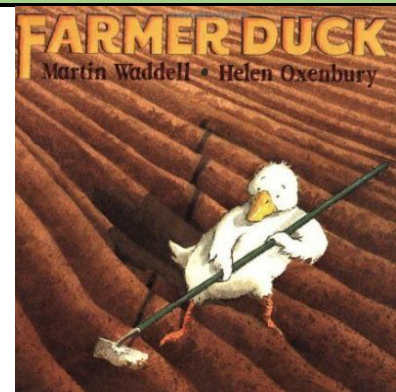
The topic this half-term is **Me, my family and friends** and we will be reading lots of books with friendship, family and kindness as the theme.

This Week's Theme

This week we will be reading the stories of 'Farmer Duck' and 'The Little Red Hen'. Both of these stories enable us to focus on how the animals are feeling when no one helps them and we will link this in to all working together in the classroom – sharing, tidying and helping each other. We will take the opportunity to concentrate on farm animals and explore what the children already know, while widening their knowledge further. We have a topic table in class and, although we discourage the children from bringing in general toys from home, they are allowed to bring in items connected to our topic to show and tell and then display on the table for the week. Therefore this week, some good choices would be alternative versions of the story or toys relating to ducks, hens or farm animals.

Books in the bag

In your child's book bag you should find a library book and a wordless picture book they have chosen. Sharing wordless books with a child provides an opportunity for literacy-rich conversations. Each "reader" listens and speaks, and creates their own story in their own words. Sharing wordless books also reinforces the idea that, in many books, the story and the pictures are connected. On the reverse of this page are tips on how to share these books with your child. When you have read with your child, please record in the reading record.



Wellies

Please send a named pair of wellies into school to leave here for your child to use when needed.

Things to remember

Every day – book bag and water bottle

Tuesdays and Wednesdays – come to school in PE kit

During hot weather - Please apply sun screen before school and send in a hat to wear.

Coats- please send in a coat every day so if it starts raining the children can still go outside.

Fruit Snack Children will be provided with a piece of fruit each day. Most days we have either apples, pears, bananas or carrots but occasionally we are given other things such as tomatoes or mini cucumbers. Please feel free to have a backup fruit snack (fresh or dried) in your child's book bag in case they don't like what's on offer.



Thank you for your support. Mrs Clarke, Ms Tonkyn and Mrs Upfold.

Tips for sharing wordless picture books with your child.

Sharing wordless books is a terrific way to build important literacy skills, including listening skills, vocabulary, comprehension — and an increased awareness of how stories are "built," as the storyteller often uses a beginning, middle, end format. For a book with few words, you'll be surprised at all the talking you will do, and all the fun you'll have!

- Recognize that there are no "right" or "wrong" ways to read a wordless book. One of the wonderful benefits of using wordless books is how each child creates his own story (or stories!) from the same pictures.
- Spend time looking at the cover and talking about the book's title. Based on those two things, make a few predictions about the story.
- Take a "picture walk" through the pages of the book. Enjoy the illustrations, which are often rich with detail. Look carefully at the expressions on characters' faces, the setting and the use of color. Talk to each other about what you see. These conversations will enrich the storytelling.
- Enjoy the pictures and point out a few things, but don't worry too much about telling a story yet. Just enjoy the pictures and get a sense of what the book is about.
- Go back through the book a second time and get ready for some great storytelling! Consider going first and acting as a model for your child. Ham it up! Have characters use different voices, add sound effects and use interesting words in your version of the book.
- Encourage your child to "read" you the book with his story. Focus on the words your child uses when he tells the story. Help your child expand his sentences or thoughts by encouraging him to add information from the illustration's details. One way to encourage more details is by asking "W" questions: Who? Where? When? Why?
- Finish your wordless book sharing by asking a few simple questions: What pictures helped you tell the story? What was your favourite still life part of your story? Have you had an experience like the one in your story?

CHEAT SHEET QUESTIONS FOR READING WORDLESS BOOKS

fb.com/whatdowedoallday

What do you see in the picture?
What is happening?
Who is here?
Where does this story take place?
What is the weather, season, day?
Is there anything unusual or familiar about the setting?
What sorts of things do people do in a place like this?
What do you think he/she/it wants?
Why do you think he/she/it wants it?
What is the character thinking?
What is the character feeling? Why?
What will happen next?
What do you think should happen?
What is a character going to do next?
What choices could the character make?

