

Reception Parents' Meeting

Friday 19th September 2025

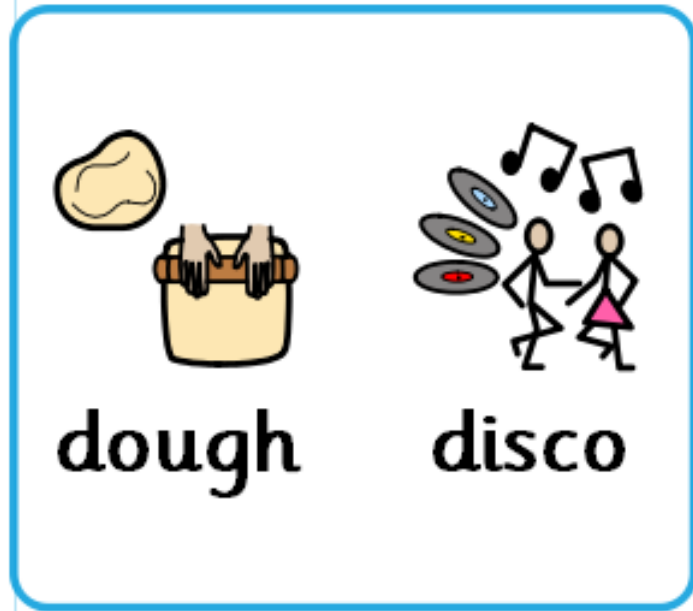
What a day in Reception looks like for your child

Teaching approaches we use

Prime Areas of Learning and Key Skills

What you can do to help

Applying for Pupil Premium (Free School Meals)



Dough Disco

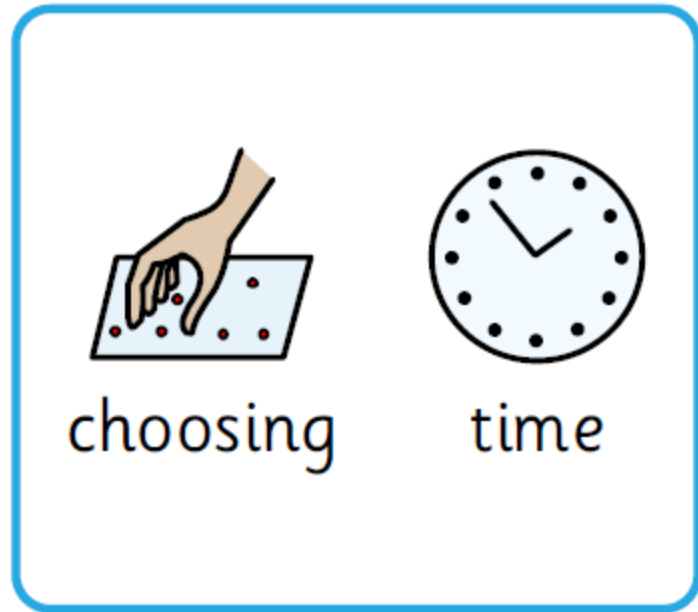
- ▶ Each morning we start the day with ‘Dough Disco’, where we strengthen our hand and finger muscles by dancing along to different songs and working on a range of movements with our own pots of playdough
- ▶ This is really important for developing our fine motor skills which feeds into writing (letter and numeral formation) as well as skills needed for projects and activities which require good dexterity

abc

phonics

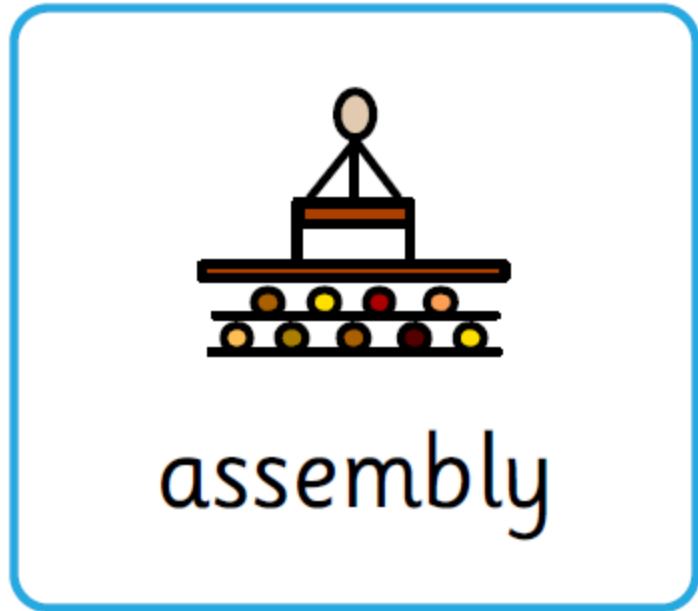
Phonics

- ▶ We follow Floppy's Phonics which ties in with the Oxford Reading Tree scheme
- ▶ We will be sending home this short clip to support you with making the pure sounds - please avoid the 'uh' at the end of letter sounds!
- ▶ Each week we'll send home your child's phonics worksheets so you can see which sounds we've been learning that week and you'll know what your child needs to keep on working on



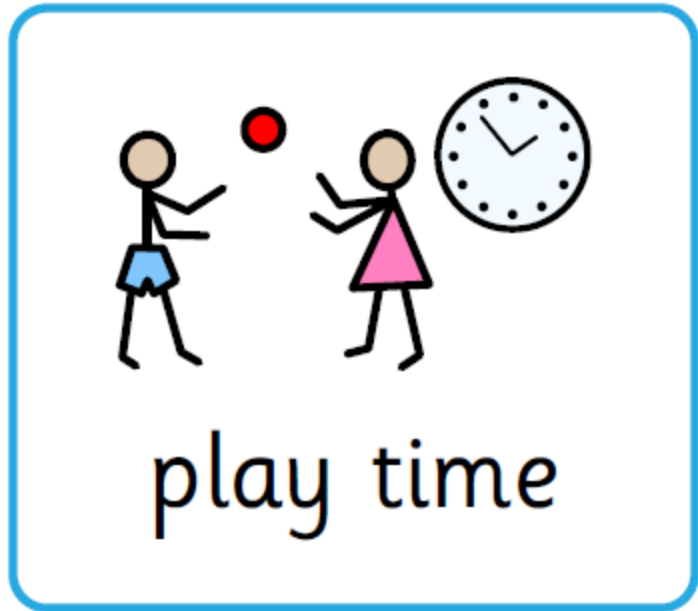
Free flow - choosing time

- ▶ A range of activities available for the children to access independently throughout both classes and the outdoor classroom
- ▶ Rainbow challenges guide children to complete specific tasks related to interests and next steps
- ▶ There will be adult-led phonics/reading/writing activities which the children will complete in groups over a couple of days



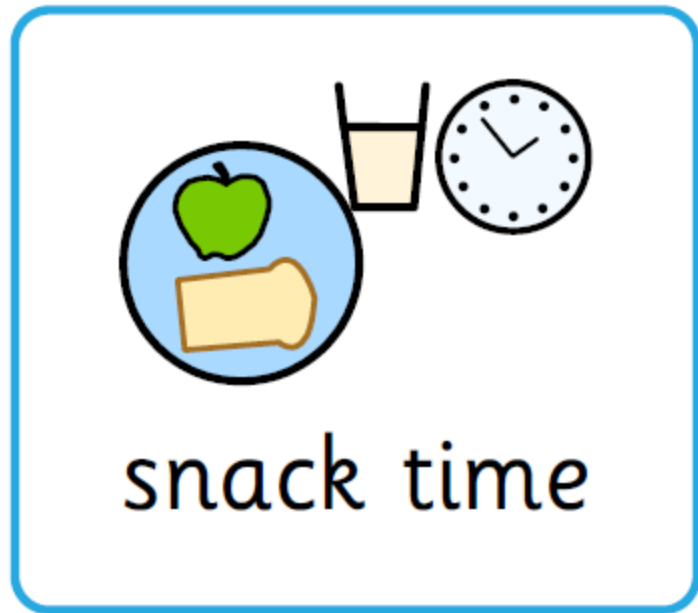
Assembly

- ▶ We will have a class assembly on a Tuesday to celebrate certificates and achievements
- ▶ We will slowly build up to attending whole school assemblies in the hall



Play time

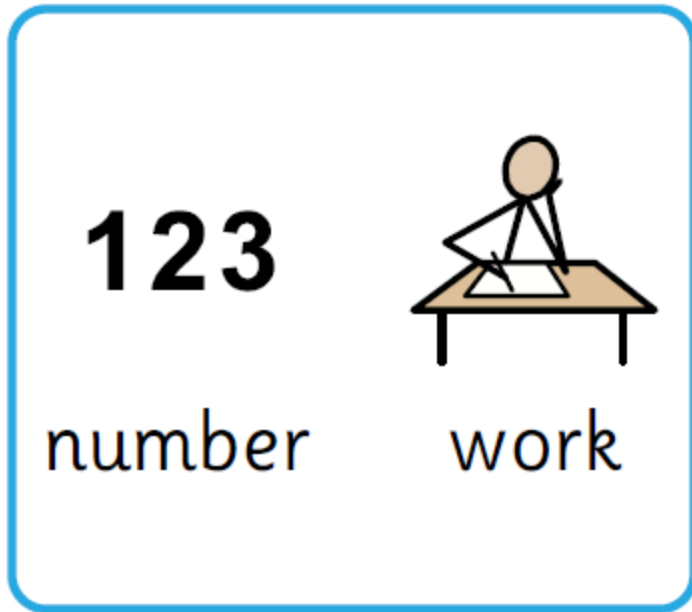
- ▶ At lunchtime, the children enjoy a play on the main playground, becoming familiar with the area, using the equipment safely and socialising across the year groups
- ▶ Later in the school year, we will start to join morning playtime as well to support with the transition into Year 1



Snack Time

- ▶ One piece of fruit/vegetables provided each day
- ▶ Milk for those who have ordered it (free until your child turns 5 - you just need to sign up for it on [Cool Milk](#))
- ▶ If you want to send a snack in because your child doesn't always like what's on offer, please send in just **one piece** of fruit or veg (i.e. apple or orange), named so they can access it easily and independently

Maths Mastery



- ▶ A daily session, usually on the carpet, which lasts no longer than 15-20 minutes
- ▶ This follows the sequence of learning developed by the NCETM - National Centre for Excellence in the Teaching of Mathematics
- ▶ It supports the development of children's quick recognition of numbers using different representation (subitising), understanding the composition of numbers and eventually quick recall of number facts - more information can be found [here](#)
- ▶ The programme links to the popular Cbeebies programme Numberblocks and we use these to explore numbers in a fun and engaging way

Number Sense

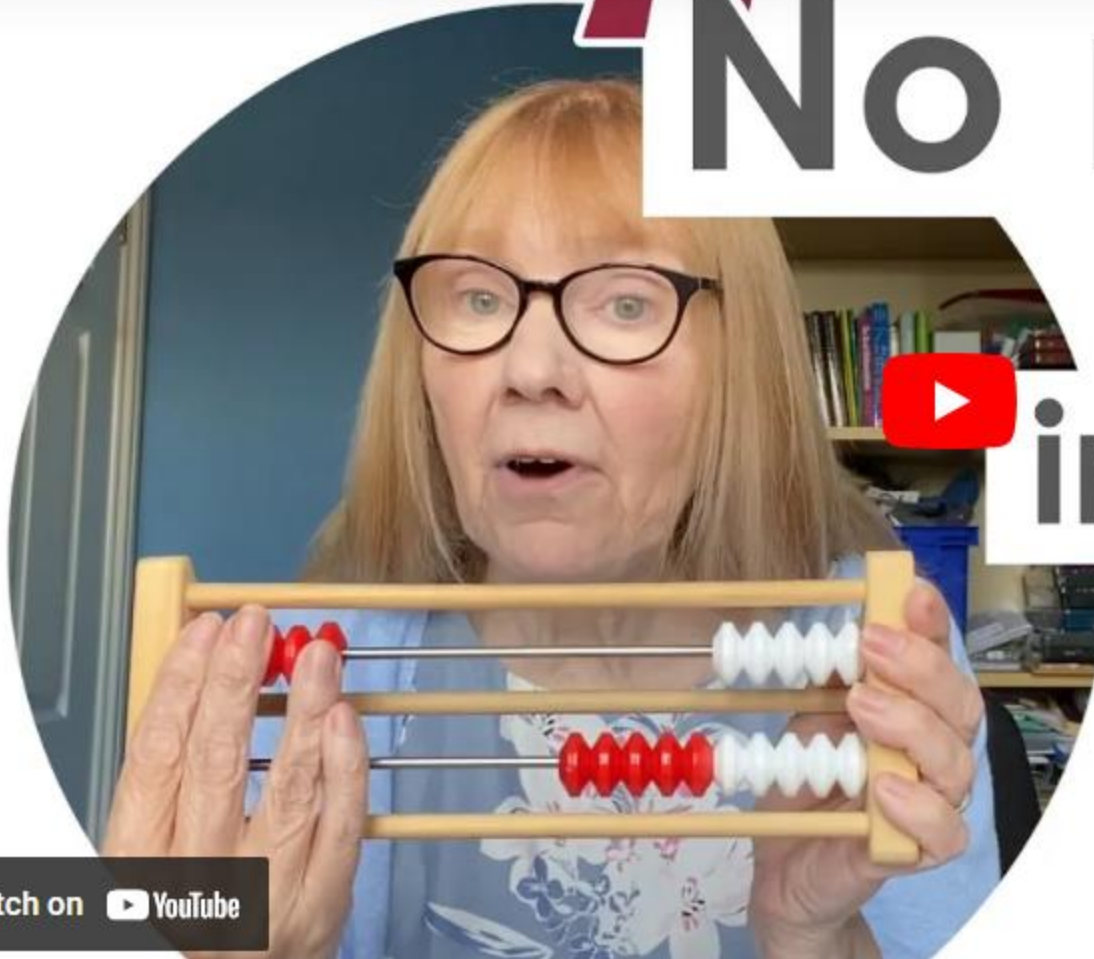



Using an abacus-like rekenrek to help children develop confidence and fluency with number



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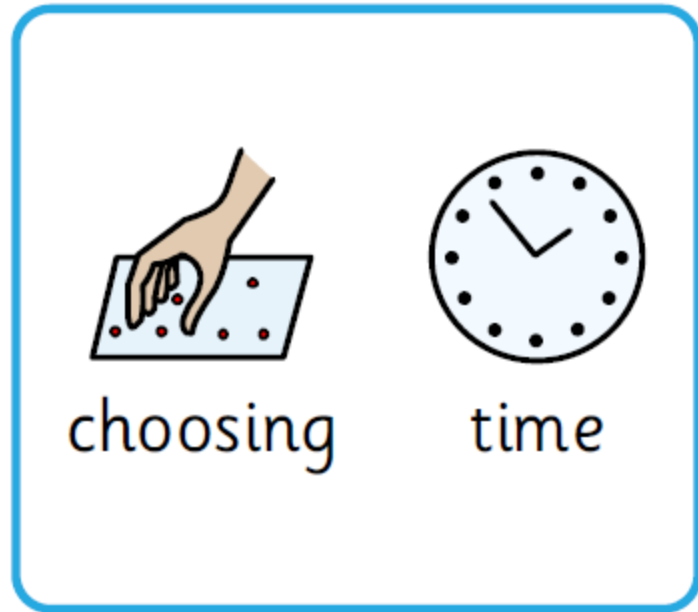
No more counting in ones



Watch on  YouTube



NCETM
NATIONAL CENTRE FOR EXCELLENCE
IN THE TEACHING OF MATHEMATICS



Free flow - choosing time

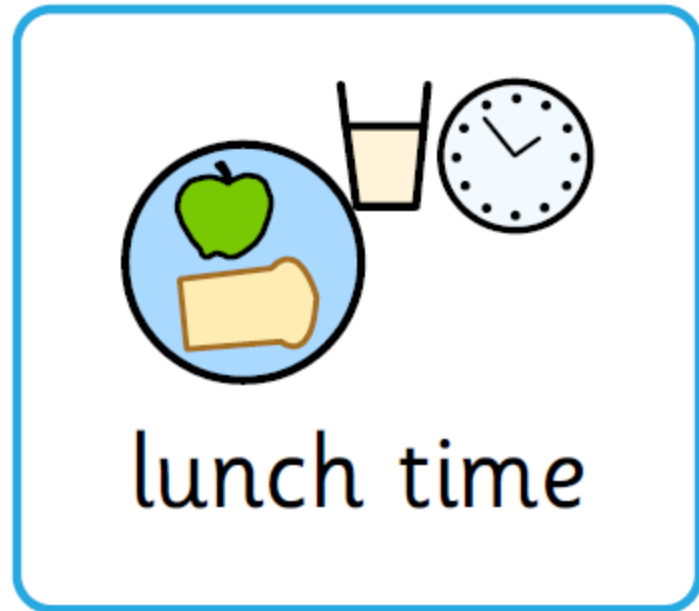
- ▶ Another window of time for children to independently access the range of activities throughout both classes and the outdoor classroom
- ▶ There will also be adult-led Maths activities which the children will complete in groups over a couple of days (not one activity per child per day)



story time

Class Reader

- ▶ We try to fit in story time at least twice a day
- ▶ **Did you know?** Research tells us that the optimum time for children to be read to, read with or read on their own is 20 minutes per day
- ▶ We will ensure that we protect at least **10 minutes of story time everyday** - you just need to protect **10 minutes at home too!**



Lunch Time

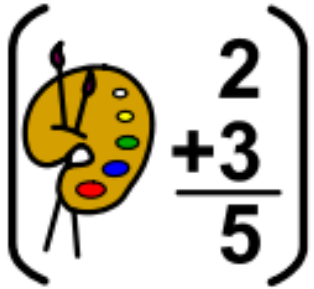
- ▶ One class goes straight into lunch and has play time on the playground afterwards, the other class goes outside first then into lunch
- ▶ We go through all the lunch choices first thing in the morning when we take the register
- ▶ For the past couple of weeks, we've then produced stickers each day with each child's name on, their lunch choice for that day and any dietary requirements/allergies, in addition to their coloured wrist bands, to help the lunchtime staff become more familiar with the children, and the children with them



Calm Time

- ▶ After lunch time we will take the afternoon register, then have some calm time to get ready for learning
- ▶ This could be using the chime bar before circle time in Jigsaw, some yoga or perhaps some breathing exercises

Topic - free flow



topic

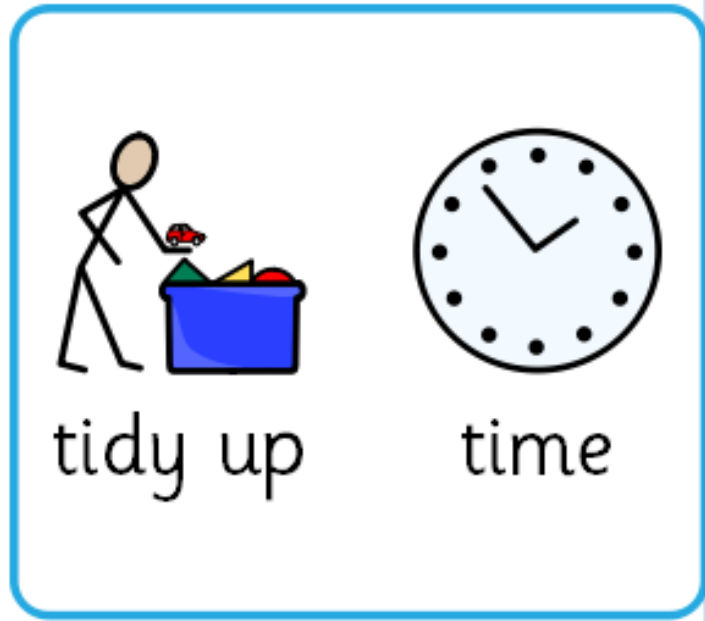


choosing



time

- ▶ There are further opportunities to explore the continuous provision in both classrooms and outside
- ▶ After a brief teaching input, reminding the children of the topic focus that week or day, there will be some adult-led activities linked to different areas of the curriculum, including science, history, geography, art, DT, RE, PSHE, PE, music, computing, etc.



Tidy Up Time

- ▶ This is a really important part of your child's daily routine
- ▶ It fosters a sense of responsibility for the learning environment and all the resources in it
- ▶ It also encourages and develops children being able to work together as a team and a shared responsibility as well as shared success when it's done!
- ▶ We try to encourage on going tidying - Choose it, Use it and Put it away!



story time

Class Reader

- ▶ This is the second opportunity of being read to that we aim to provide children with
- ▶ We will focus on talking about stories together, introducing new vocabulary, story sequencing and answering questions



Home Time

- ▶ It's quite an operation getting all 60 children ready for home time - ways you can help:
- ▶ Please ensure all bags, water bottles and jumpers/cardigans are **named and labelled**
- ▶ If your child is booked into Puffin after school club but not attending that day, please email or call the office directly as they organise the administration of all clubs
- ▶ Again, if a different adult is collecting your child, please let the admin team know - they will get the message to us

What else does my child experience in a week at school?

Personal and Social Skills



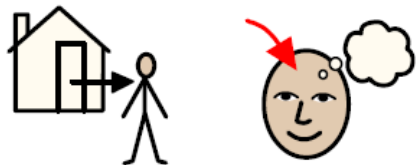
Jigsaw



circle time



group work



outdoor learning



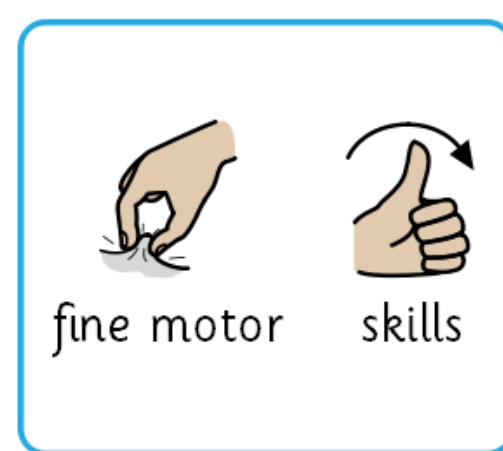
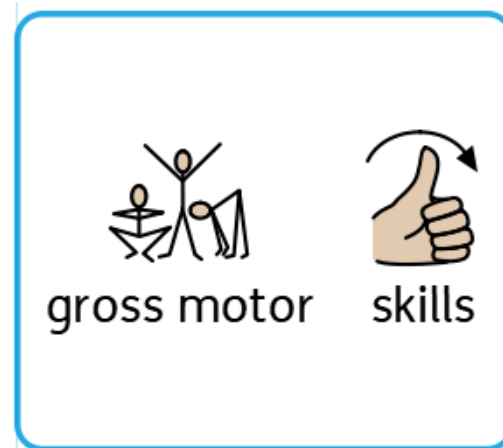
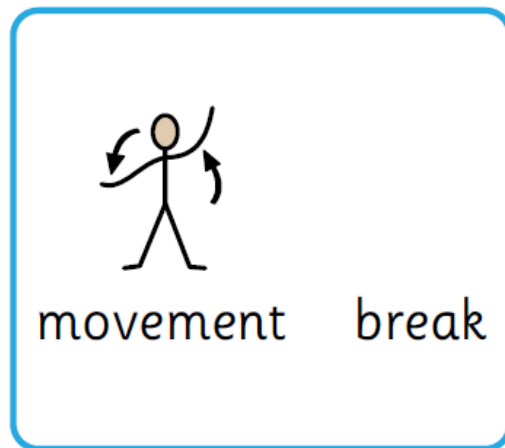
taking turns



class celebration

What else does my child experience in a week at school?

Physical Skills



[balanceability](#)

What else does my child experience in a week at school?

Communication and Language Skills



Book



Talk



circle time



listening



games



sharing news



roleplay



small world



play

What can you do to help?

- ▶ Set some time aside to talk to your child each day - find out what they did at school, who their friends are, what they enjoyed
- ▶ Read with them for 10 minutes each day - we'll do at least 10 minutes too!
- ▶ Encourage them to take turns - whether it's listening and waiting for their turn to speak or playing a game
- ▶ Help them become more independent - putting their own coat on, using their cutlery to cut up their food, keep their own cardigan/jumper in a safe place when they take it off
- ▶ Get active and build physical skills - visit playgrounds (weather permitting) so they can climb, run, jump, etc. and build their core strength and gross motor skills
- ▶ Encourage the development of fine motor skills - Lego, drawing or cutting out, drawing zigzags and curves or threading activities, doing up buttons, playdough etc.

Pupil Premium

- ▶ If your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, they will automatically be entitled to universal infant free school meals. However, if you do meet the benefits-related free school meals eligibility criteria, then it is advised you apply to receive additional benefits:
- ▶ [Holiday activities and food \(HAF\) programme](#) is for children aged 4 to 16 in reception to year 11 in receipt of benefits-related free school meals. HAF offers eligible pupils access to activities and at least one healthy meal is provided during each session. The activities take place during the Easter, summer, and Christmas school holidays
- ▶ [Pupil premium](#) is extra funding paid directly to schools for each pupil who is eligible for free school meals. It can help to fund valuable teaching and learning support to improve pupil's education.
- ▶ For more information, go to the [Warwickshire County Council website](#)

Communication

- ▶ Please sign up to your child's Class Dojo - letters with their unique code were sent out to everyone this week.
- ▶ Messages on Dojo are not monitored so if you need to speak to us, please use the normal communication via the admin or Reception email or speak to us at the end of the day.
- ▶ Please wait until all children have been let out before speaking to us at the end of the day. We will be able to give you more time.
- ▶ Shared Learning - this will be sent out each Wednesday and collected in on a Monday
- ▶ PE - Tuesdays and Fridays