

# Lote Tree Primary

## Wondrous Willows Newsletter

### Autumn Term - 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct 21



Assalamu alaikum

Dear Parents,

We would like to start by welcoming you all to our Reception Class newsletter. We are extremely proud of how well all the children have settled into school, have become familiar with the routine, and have shown a positive attitude towards their learning.

During the first half term our theme has been, 'Can We Be Friends?'. Through this lovely topic we have looked at;



- What makes me special
- Similarities and differences
- Me and my feelings
- Being kind and helpful
- Teamwork and cooperation
- How to be a good friend



We have studied the stories; 'The Rainbow Fish' and 'Sharing a Shell.' Both of these fantastic stories, have helped us learn about friendship and the importance of being kind, sharing and teamwork.

## Literacy

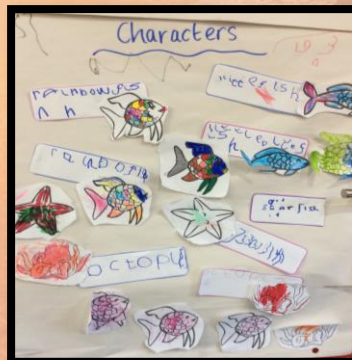
We have concentrated on communication and language skills by carrying out lots of circle time activities, learning to take turns and listen to each other when talking.

We have retold the story, acted them out and drawn wonderful story maps. We've even created our very own rainbow characters for our own versions of the story!

We took turns placing a sparkly scale on the Rainbow Fish and telling the class something special about ourselves.



We discussed the characters in the Rainbow fish and labelled them.



We have been watching videos about the coral reef and the wonderful creatures you might find there!



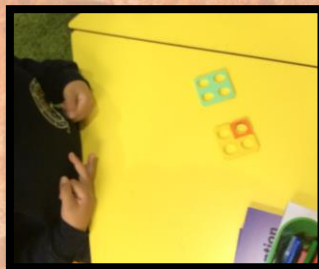
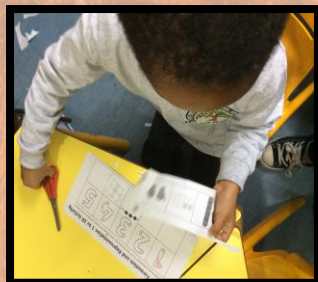
We used small world to retell the story Sharing a Shell. We got better at using the words from the book to help us. We also learnt new words like 'anemone'.





## Numeracy

In Numeracy, we have been building on our counting skills and number recognition. We have been carrying out lots of activities to help us gain a deep understanding of numbers to 5. We spent much of our time 'saying what we see' and giving answers using full sentences such as, 'They are the same because', 'They are different because' and 'I can see...'. As well as this, we are beginning to develop our ability to subitise amounts which means being able to identify how many items are in a group without counting



## Understanding the World

We have dived deep 'Under the Sea' to explore a wide range of sea creatures this term. We have been learning facts about our chosen sea creatures; we were most fascinated to find out that dolphins sleep with one eye open to protect themselves from predators and that jellyfish are not actually fish! We have had fun looking at the different properties of sea creatures and classifying them!



## Expressive Arts and Design

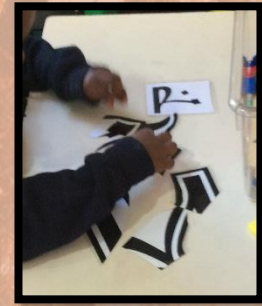
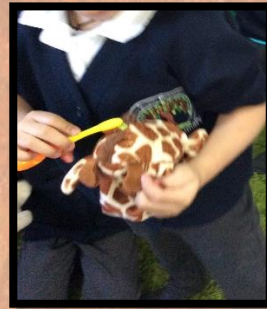
We have been getting very creative, developing our fine motor skills to create a wide range of sea creatures using a variety of mixed media.





## Islamic Studies and Maktab

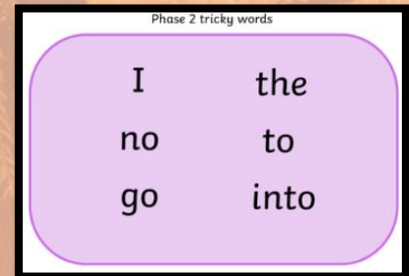
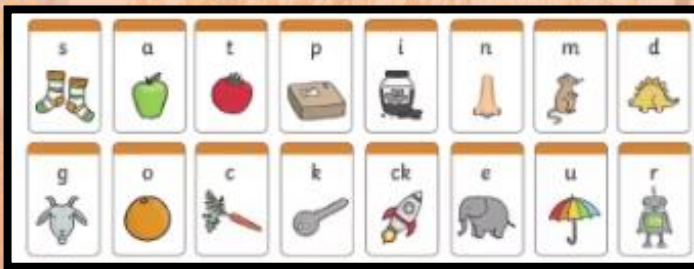
In Islamic Education this half-term children have been learning about cleanliness and good manners and how they form an important part of our faith.



In Maktab we have been learning the Arabic alphabet, the names of the letters, the sounds they make and how to form them.

## Phonics and Reading

The class have started on Phase 2 of their phonics and have learnt the sounds below.



The children have been given flashcards to practice at home. Please go through these daily with your child to help consolidate their learning. Your child has also been given reading books containing sounds that they have learnt so far. Please encourage your child to sound out and blend when reading, keeping in mind that the tricky words above cannot be sounded out and must be learnt by sight.

## Next Half-term

Next half term our theme will be 'Once Upon a Time', where we will delve into the wonderful world of traditional stories and fairy tales. We are very excited and cannot wait to dive into this fun and creative curriculum with the children!

Please look out for dates for our phonics and numeracy workshops for parents which will be held next half term.

A big jazAkallah for your continued support!

Mrs Choudhury 😊