St Joseph's

Reception Newsletter

20th November 2026

We have had a fabulous week, with visits from tractors, campers and motorbikes! A big thank you to Mr and Mrs Coyle and Mr and Mrs Potter for sharing their amazing machines with the children.

Topic

Next week, we will continue our exciting Marvellous Machines topic by exploring robots and thinking about how machines can help people in their everyday lives. Our focus story will be 'Robot and the Bluebird' by David Lucas, a heart-warming tale about friendship, kindness and helping others. Through the story, we will discuss the characters and their feelings, make predictions about what might happen next, and explore the themes of caring for others and working together. We will develop our imagination and communication skills by acting out the robot and bluebird's first meeting, retelling parts of the story, and creating our own robot characters.

Supporting learning at home

- **Drawing and designing a robot, then talking about what special jobs it could do.**
- **Building a robot using recycled materials such as boxes, tubes and bottle tops.**
- **Reading stories about robots and machines together and discussing your favourite characters.**
- **Playing "Robot Says" (similar to Simon Says), where children listen carefully and follow instructions like a robot.**

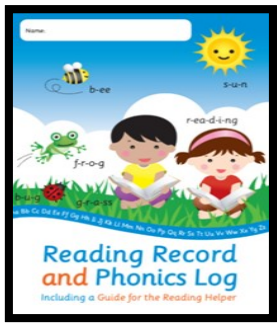
Maths

Next week we will explore finding different representations of 4 and 5 and ensure that we can confidently say the number names 'one' to 'five'. Once we can do this, we will match the verbal number names to numerals and quantities. Throughout this small step, children will be supported with the counting principles. Children will be encouraged to count 4 and 5 objects by touching each object as we count to support one-to-one correspondence. We will recognise that the final number we say tells us the total number of objects in the set, helping us to develop an understanding of cardinality.

Supporting learning at home

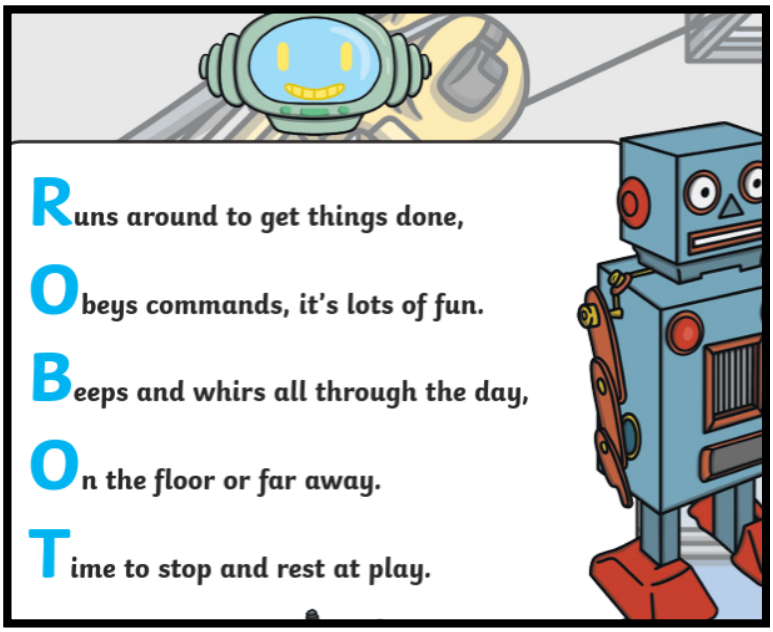
- Looking for groups of 4 and 5 objects around the home, such as spoons, toys, socks or pieces of fruit.
- Practising counting objects carefully by touching each item as it is counted.
- Playing number hunt games and asking your child to find the numerals 4 and 5 in books, on doors, clocks or number plates.
- Singing counting songs such as "Five Little Ducks" or "Five Currant Buns" to reinforce number names and counting forwards and backwards.

Please make sure your child practises their sounds daily and keeps their books in their school bags.



Please make sure you read with your child each day and sign their reading diary.

Our Star Poem



Please read and practise with your child.

Poetry helps children to develop early language and literacy skills. It introduces new vocabulary, allows children to play with words, letters and sounds, helps with memory and teaches children about rhythm and rhyme.



















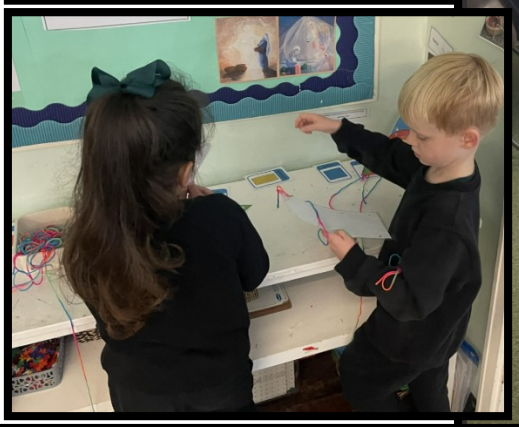





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