# Brambles Weekly News

WB: 23/04/18

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### Reminders

Have you confirmed your school place yet? Please let either the Cambridgeshire School Admissions Team or the school know that you will be taking up your child's place.

Next week it is the turn of Orange Group to share their "Marvellous Me".

#### **Carpet Time**

Stories: The Little Red Hen (makes pizza)

**Song:** I like being me!

Rhyme: 5 little peas

Focus: Number 12, square and orange

## **Upcoming Events**

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> May

Bank Holiday Brambles and school closed

> Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> May Brambles re-opens

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> May PTA Meeting at 2pm

# This Week's Learning

This week Green Group have shown how marvellous they are. They have shared everything from volcanoes to a Charity Walk for Diabetes. The children were very confident in standing up in front of all their friends and talking about what they know.

## **Something Special**



Learning how to use scissors plays an important role in developing the fine motor skills young children need in order to hold pencils and crayons. Having strong fine motor skills will help children as they begin the tricky process of learning how to write. It might sound easy, but teaching young children how to cut with scissors is a very complex task.

Sequence of Scissor Skills: This is the order in which cutting skills should be introduced to young children. Rip, Snip, Fringe, Straight lines, Zig zag lines, Curved lines (circles, waves, hearts), Right angles (squares and rectangles)

Scissor Skill Definitions: Ripping sturdy paper such as construction paper is the perfect activity for young children to engage in before being introduced to scissors. Children exercise their tripod grasp- or their thumb and first two fingers as they grip the paper to rip it. Ripping also requires children to move their hands in opposite directions at the same time which helps develop bilateral coordination skills. Cut sturdy paper into strips and invite children to rip away! When they demonstrate they are ready, move to larger pieces of paper. Snipping is the act of opening and closing the scissors one time only which results in successfully cutting something. Snipping will help children develop the muscles in their hands necessary to cut longer lines later so their hands won't become fatigued. Fringe is repetitive snipping without cutting the paper in half.

The Importance of Scissor Skills: Cutting also helps develop eye-hand coordination as children hold the paper with one hand and cut with the other while tracking the movement of the scissors with their eyes. Another important skill that is developed through cutting is bilateral coordination. Bilateral coordination involves using both sides of the body at the same time while each hand is performing different tasks. For example, to cut a square, the child must hold the paper with one hand and turn it while the other hand is not only opening and closing the scissors but also moving along the line. Easier said than done!