

Reception Newsletter- Week beginning: 23.01.23

Term 3 topic- What happens in our world?

The Chinese New Year story
'The Year of the Rabbit'



What an interesting and exciting week it has been!

Personal, Social and Emotional Development- Over the last couple of weeks, we completed another piece of 'jigsaw' continuing with our 'Dreams and Goals' theme. We thought and discussed the following: Is it a good thing to say unkind things to our friends? How does it make you feel when someone says something nice to you? We passed Jigsaw Jennie around the circle and thought about what we are good at. We thought about kind words of encouragement we could say to our friends and how it makes us feel when we hear unkind words.

Communication and Language- We love to chat in Reception about all sorts of things and we are becoming more confident in sharing our knowledge in large groups. We loved talking about how we celebrate different events and loved listening to how Chinese New Year is celebrated. Our listening skills are developing each week!

Physical Development- We have so much fun building up our muscles for writing whilst doing our dough disco and squiggle while we wiggle sessions. It really does help us and our handwriting is improving and getting better all the time. Keep practising at home using the rhymes! We continue to improve our skills in balancing, climbing and ball games outside, as well as working together to become a good team player.

Literacy We have loved learning the story of Chinese New Year and about how people celebrate it. We are getting really good at spelling using our Fred fingers and we wrote some labels for different Chinese New Year items. Our teachers absolutely love watching the children leading their own phonics sessions in their own play. We use all the correct terminology and facial expressions! It make Mrs Howell giggle! We continue to enjoy writing on clip boards, post its, notepads and whiteboards. We enjoy sitting with our friends in the book corner, looking at a variety of story and information books. We have sorted all our books out this week into different categories and we are very good at putting them back in their correct place.

Mathematics- Our number recognition and counting continue to improve every week. This week we have been looking at number bonds to 5, weight and measurement. We pretended to be human weighing scales and when Mrs Howell placed something in one of our hands, we had to show how we would be unbalanced. She did try and trick us though, but we were much too smart to fall for her trickery! We also used the Chinese New Year race of the animals to introduce ordinal numbers. You should be so proud of all the mathematical vocabulary we are now using!

Understanding the World- We really enjoyed learning about Chinese New Year and how it is celebrated. We watched lion and dragon dances on youtube and even made up our own dragon dance whilst wearing our dragon mask puppets that we made. We can now find China on the map! We completed an experiment with some dancing noodles and learnt that the vinegar and the bicarbonate of soda make little explosions when they are mixed together, making our noodles move and dance about in the jar. We do enjoy learning about the world around us so very much. It has been very cold this week; we wonder what the weather will bring for us next week!

Expressive Arts and Design We are very creative in Reception; you can see this in our art work, our role play and can hear it in the songs and stories that we make up! Our classrooms are filled with fabulous creations! This week you will see our lovely painted cherry blossom branches, paper chain dragon puppets and wax resist rabbits. We have used so many skills to produce this fantastic work. We have a baby clinic in our classroom and it is so lovely to see the children role playing and getting their babies checked out by doctors and nurses. The conversations have been lovely to hear and they are all so eager to play here we have had to put a limit of 4 children at a time. This is where the 10 minute sand timers come in useful!

Supporting learning at home

- Try some magic wand handwriting in the air. What could you use? Say the rhymes as you form the letters as this helps us to form our letters correctly – so important for when we begin to join our letters further up the school.
- Have a race with your family or with some toys and use the ordinal numbers. Who came 1st, 2nd etc. You could make some little cards.
- Please help your child learn the red words (in reading record) and practise spelling them too.
- Read some stories. A bedtime story is a lovely calming way to end the day but is also a lovely way to spend time together at any point in the day. We love a good story!
- Every child in the class now has either a sound blending book or ditties to read at home each week. Please read these with your child. Mrs Caddick Adams is running a reading reward each month to the children who have made the most progress reading at home. Please sign the diary when you've read with your child.

Notes for next week 30.01.23

- We look forward to our 'Stay and Play' session on the morning of Friday 3rd February. We have been overwhelmed by the amount of parents that have signed up and have really enjoyed showing you all what we do at school.
- We love to design, make and create in Reception so please think before you put your cardboard tubes, boxes, plastic trays, milk containers (and tops) etc in you recycling bin... we will make them into something amazing! Thank you.

Have a lovely weekend!