

Reception Newsletter- Week beginning: 20.2.23

Term 4 topic- Transport- How do we get around?



Our story of the week is Beryl's Box by Lisa Taylor

Welcome Back! We've had an exciting first week back in Reception!

Personal, Social and Emotional Development- In our jigsaw circle time this term we have been exploring how we can keep ourselves healthy. This week we have been talking about different ways to exercise and why it is important to be fit and healthy. We thought really hard and came up with lots of different ways we like to exercise. We also did an experiment to see what happens to our bodies when we exercise. We felt our heart beats before exercising and then again after and we could feel them pounding away and we talked about the importance of having a happy active heart! We have also been sticking to our school rules to keep ourselves safe and to make our school a happy place to be. Mrs Mitchell has started a weekly 'All day every day' celebration session for 1 child from each class who displays our school values all the time. They will have some squash and a biscuit with Mrs Mitchell along with a certificate and a special seat during assembly! Oh, I wonder who will be the first from Reception to do this?

Communication and Language- What a lot of chat this week! We had lovely discussions about what we know about transport and what we want to find out. We decorated our own cardboard box and had some very imaginative ideas of what kind of transport the box turned into. We used our imagination about what we might see on a journey in 'Beryl's Box' whilst sitting in our own box. We all went to some very exciting places. It has been a great tool to encourage role play. Who knew a cardboard box could be so exciting!

Physical Development- We enjoy playing outside every day, using various sports equipment on the playground e.g. hockey sticks and balls, hoops and footballs. We enjoy building obstacles courses and finding lots of different ways to travel around our playground. We have lots of new PE equipment in our outdoor area and we have very much enjoyed trying to get the ball in the cup! We continue to develop our fine motor skills- exploring play dough, writing and drawing, using scissors and tweezers and creating with various building and constructing toys. In PE this week we had fun developing our ball skills. We practised our coordination and control when rolling a ball along the floor; creating different shapes and from one hand to the other.

Have a go at the Home Challenge: Practise rolling a ball with good control at home. Can you roll a ball around your living room while keeping one hand on the ball?

Literacy- We have been very imaginative in our writing this week. We have been writing about what our box will turn into and where we would go. We had lots of fantastic ideas. We also have been thinking about what we know about transport and what we would like to find out and some of us wrote our thoughts and questions down. We love writing at school and do lots of independent writing during our play. Mrs Howell loves all the notes we write to her! We are also continuing to look at a variety of non-fiction books about transport and have read lots of story books. We love our library sessions and love choosing new books to take home and share with you. Please remember to return them every Monday. The Mystery Reader sessions are a firm favourite in Reception. We always ask Mrs Howell if it is a Mystery Reader Day!

Mathematics- We have continued to practise: recognising our numbers to 20; doubling and halving; forming our numbers correctly; counting up to 9 and 10 and back down again and saying what is 1 more and 1 less than a given number. We have also been learning about the composition of 9 and 10. We know that there are different ways to make these numbers using Numicon, a 10 frame, our fingers and bead strings. We enjoyed ordering numbers to 10 and working out which number was missing from the sequence. We have also been comparing numbers with 10 and know that a set of objects can have 'more' or 'fewer' items or the same number of items as another set of objects. We talked about the different ways children travel to school and have even counted how many children come by each mode of transport. We have been comparing these numbers as the week progresses.

Understanding the World-

We have been looking at different types of transport and finding out what we know and talking about what we want to find out. We have sorted lots of different vehicles into different categories of the children's choices. The children also came up with some very clever questions such as: Do any vehicles in the air have wheels? Do all boats have motors? Do all bikes look the same? We have also looked at pictures of different vehicles through the ages and chatted about how cars, trains and aeroplanes have changed over the years.

We are spotting lots of changes in the world around us and we are noticing how much the grass in our playground is now growing.

Expressive Arts and Design - We decorated Beryl's box to go on amazing imaginative journeys, used pastels to create a picture of Beryl floating on the sea in her box boat and designed vehicles which we will follow and make out of recycling next week. We have continued to play in our role play areas and in our small world area.

Supporting learning at home

- Practise writing numbers to 20.
- Using small objects or counters see how many different ways you can make 9 and 10.
- Have a go at decorating a big box at home and go on your own magical journey. Where will you go? Can your child write a list of everywhere you went or a sentence about your journey?
- Have a look at some information books about transport. Can your child remember a fact to tell their teacher?

Notes for next week 27.02.23

- Friday 3rd March is World Book Day. You can come dressed as your favourite book character and bring in your favourite book.
- A letter has gone home with a picture of your child's vehicle plan. Please collect any recycling over the weekend and bring this into school on Monday for your child to make their vehicle.
- Please remember to bring coats, water bottles and book bags every day.
- Everyone was given a plastic phonics wallet at the beginning of the year, please make sure this is in your child's book bag every day as the children take these to their phonics sessions where they will be given new books and letters to take home.

Have a lovely weekend!