

Reception Newsletter- Week beginning: 13.03.23



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

Our story of the week- 'The Train Ride'

Personal, Social and Emotional Development- We continue to look out for each other, work as a team and practise our please and thank yous. We are always reminding each other of our 3 overarching rules; be ready, be respectful and safe. We know if we adhere to these 3 rules, our school will be a lovely place to be where we have fun, learn amazing things and make friends. In our Jigsaw time this week, we talked about our bedtime routines and how we get ourselves ready for bed. We know part of being healthy is getting the right amount of sleep so that we have enough energy for the day ahead. When we sleep, we are resting, and our body is even growing! If we do not get enough sleep, it can make us feel tired and grumpy and it also makes it harder for us to concentrate during the school day. A bedtime story helps us relax before going to sleep.

Communication and Language- We really enjoyed chatting about trains and how they have changed over the years. We have also been making up our own versions of the story using the masks! We love to chat in Reception, and we know that we need to be able to listen, and to respond to what people say. A conversation is not just talking!

Physical Development- During outside play this week, we have enjoyed using various equipment on the playground and in our outside area e.g. cup and balls, bats and balls and footballs. We continue to develop our fine motor skills in a variety of ways including, exploring play dough, threading activities, handwriting, cutting and using various building and constructing materials. We have made some amazing models of different forms of transport. Did you see the aeroplane and the rocket made out of our large construction bricks? Everyone wanted to be a passenger! As it was comic relief on Friday, we used our PE time to take part in The Elms Danceathon! We used the scarves and ribbons to move in time with the music and we loved manipulating these and practising our gross motor skills.

Literacy – There are many independent writing opportunities in our classes and in our outside area. We love a clip board in Reception! Our writing has progressed so much. We are becoming quite accomplished in pinching sounds of a word on our fingers, making it easier for us to spell words. We are also very proud of the children's reading. They always try so hard in our phonics sessions and seeing the smiles on their faces now they can read is amazing!

Mathematics- We are brilliant mathematicians in Reception. We are all problem solvers! We continue to practise counting in 1s, 2s, 5s, and 10s; recognising our numbers to 20 and beyond; doubling and halving; forming our numbers correctly; counting up to 10 and back down again; saying what is one more and one less than a given number. We are becoming quite confident in reciting

some number bonds and we are enjoying working other number bonds out. Ask us! We have lots of apparatus which help us with our maths – Numicon, number tracks, counters, objects and of course our fingers...the list is endless! We have also been looking at lots of 3D shapes and talking about their properties in mathematical ways!

Understanding the World - We are spotting lots of changes in the world around us and we were very excited to see new leaves and blossom growing on our trees. Hopefully no more very cold weather! This week we have been talking about old trains and how they move. We know that new trains use electricity but a long time ago, someone used to have to put coal on a fire to make the trains chug up the tracks!

Expressive Arts and Design- We created some super train pictures this week by cutting out 2D shapes and following a plan. There was lots of talk about why square wheels wouldn't be good for a train! We also used our fabulous art skills to produce something for someone special! Make sure you look in your child's book bag on Sunday!

#### Supporting learning at home

- Which shapes can you find around your house?
- Can you write your surname by yourself?
- Explore number bonds to 10. Snack time is a great time to do this. Try giving your child 10 blueberries / cheerios etc and as they eat them one by one, comment on how many they have left. Lots of maths can come into snack time!
- Ask us what we have learnt about trains.
- Can you spot any signs of spring on your way to and from school?

#### Notes for next week 20.03.23

- Parents evening is on Monday – looking forward to seeing you there.
- Please make sure you are returning the reading books your child takes home. These are really expensive and now in many of the groups we do not have enough books for every child and we are having to make paper copies. Books get changed every **Wednesday** but make sure the books are kept in your child's phonics pack in their book bag everyday as we will be reading with your child during the week.

**This week we say a sad goodbye to Miss Bird who has been with us for two weeks on a teaching placement. Miss Bird is studying to become a teacher and always thought she would be a KS2 practitioner. We might have changed her mind after she has seen what fun and creativity the EYFS brings to learning! We wish her all the best and thank you, Miss Bird for all your help these past 2 weeks!**

*We hope you have a lovely weekend.*