

## Reception Newsletter

Weeks beginning: 20.03.23 and 27.03.23

Term 4 Weeks 5 & 6- Spring / Easter

Our story of the week- The Easter Story

What a bit busy 2 weeks we have had- Spring walks, our Easter egg hunt, make the rules day and generally just getting physical outside as much as we could in the warmer weather!

Personal, Social and Emotional Development- We continue to look out for each other, work as a team, and follow the class rules (except for when we were re-making them on Friday)! We are practising sorting out little problems on our own and using our kind words. We have talked about how important it is for us all to get enough sleep to keep our bodies and our minds healthy. We have also looked at the importance of keeping our bodies clean.

Communication and Language- We are a very chatty bunch and love to discuss things in our class on the carpet, and during choosing a job time, inside and outside. We know that if we listen to each other we may learn something we didn't know! Last week we really enjoyed chatting about spring and how the world around us is changing. This week we talked about The Easter Story and had some interesting discussions around this. Who knew Jesus ate brussel sprouts during the last supper!

Physical Development- During outside play we have used various equipment on the playground e.g. scoops and balls, bats and balls, ankle skippers and footballs. We have had a lovely time climbing on our outside beams and climbing frames. We have been so amazing these last couple of weeks that our pebble pot was filled up again. We chose to play on the large climbing frame on the big playground. It was so much fun swinging like monkeys and climbing really high! We continue to develop our fine motor skills by exploring play dough, handwriting in letter families, cutting and using various building and constructing toys. We have carefully sheared the shaving foam off the sheep and have made a lovely chick by cutting out lots of different shapes.

Literacy- We have done lots of independent writing including Spring writing and our Easter writing for our cards. We are doing lots of reading in groups and individually. Please continue to read your child's reading books with them over the holidays - we put an extra non-fiction book bag book in for you to enjoy together! Please look out for letters in your child's phonics pack next term as this will tell you their new phonics groups and how you can support at home.

Mathematics- We continue to use our maths knowledge in the class and outside, in a variety of activities. We know that maths is everywhere! Ask us what we know! Ask us about 3D shapes and their properties. Why does a sphere roll? Ask us the different ways of making 10 or maybe a number problem. We like working things out! We have explored repeated patterns and even made our own out of natural objects that we found on our Spring walk. Over the last couple of weeks we have also been plugging any gaps in our classes which may have arisen.

Understanding the World- We are hoping that Spring is finally here! We do like the snow and wrapping up in our layers, but we are ready for a little warmth! There's so many signs of spring outside and we explored them all on our Spring walk! The highlight of our walk was seeing a dead

toad being carried away by a blackbird. The blackbird kept dropping it and picking it back up as we all watched with great excitement. We learnt about the Easter story this week and talked a little about the Bible. We also think we had a little visit from someone or something, as we found lots of Easter stamps in our outdoor area which we exchanged for chocolate. We wonder!

We also had a very long (because the children were so excited) and interesting conversation about lava as Harry brought in some from Iceland. The children didn't believe it was lava because it was solid. We watched short clips of molten lava and talked about what happens when this cools. The children were so excited to hold the lava rock and loved watching the short Disney clip Lava which also explains this beautifully. We were so glad that the volcano didn't become extinct in the end!

Expressive Arts and Design- Over the past two weeks we have used various techniques in our Easter art activities - printing, collage, using forks to paint - ask us how we did this! We also love to use a variety of materials and resources to make various things. We are very creative! It's been lovely to introduce a little singing when outside - something we have really missed!

#### Supporting learning at home

- Practise writing numerals to twenty.
- Practise letter formation in families - coadgqsef, litujy, rnmhbkep, vwxz.
- Practise recognising different coins and making up different amounts using a variety of coins.
- Write about something you did in holidays, draw a picture and bring it into school!
- Have a look at the photos on our class page - we have all had a great term!

#### Notes for after the holidays 17.04.23

- Have a lovely holiday we look forward to seeing you on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2023. Don't eat too many chocolate eggs!



Happy Easter!