



Reception Newsletter- Week beginning: 30.10.23

Term 2 topic- Tell me a story

Our story of the week- The Little Red Hen



We have had a great first week back after the half term holiday. We have been very busy this week doing lots of activities around the story of 'The Little Red Hen.'

Ask your children what they have enjoyed doing!

Personal, Social and Emotional Development- We continue to be a good friend to everyone and we are trying hard to listen to each other and work as a team. We know we always need to have kind hands and use kind words and remember that at The Elms Primary School we are READY, RESPECTFUL & SAFE. We follow this to make our class and our school a happy and safe place to be.

Communication and Language- After reading 'The Little Red Hen', we chatted about being helpful and we shared what we do to help our families at home. We also had a lively discussion about whether the Little Red Hen was right not to share her bread with the animals, when they had not helped her to make it. The children had strong views on this, and we discussed whether they would share themselves in the same situation! We are doing brilliantly with our phonics! We are also becoming more confident with blending the sounds Fred tells us. Ask us if we can pinch some regular three letter words on our fingers eg cat, c-a-t.

Physical Development- We love being active in Reception at outside time! We enjoy using a variety of equipment on the playground including bats, hockey sticks, hurdles, balls and hula hoops. To help develop our fine motor skills and strengthen our fingers for drawing and writing, we have enjoyed a variety of activities. We shaped play dough into bread rolls, some of them looked good enough to eat! We loved exploring flour and water; very messy! We still love our 'squiggle' and we know it strengthens our muscles and this helps us with our writing, drawing and playing.

Literacy- We are continuing to learn lots of new sounds to help us to begin reading and writing. This week we learnt 'e', 'l' and 'h'. Please remember to keep all school books in book bags ready for changing each week and don't forget to share the library book with someone at home. This week we had a go at writing the names of some farm animals and listened carefully for the sounds in the words, for example, 'cat, c-a-t'. We continue to enjoy looking at a variety of fiction, non-fiction and poetry books and sharing them with our friends.

Mathematics- Maths is everywhere and it is fantastic to see the children use the apparatus in their choosing a job time. We continue to practise counting in 1s to 20; recognising our numbers to 20; forming our numbers correctly; counting back from 10 to 0 and saying what is one more and one less than a given number. This week we continue to concentrate on numbers 1,2 and 3. We have ordered and compared these numbers thinking about which number is bigger/smaller, 1 more/less. We have started to explore the composition of these numbers looking at all the different ways we can create these

numbers. Ask us to show you 'bunny ears 3'. We have also been practising our 'subitising'. This is where we look at an arrangement of 1,2 or 3 items and can say how many there are without counting them. Why not have a go with dice at home?

Understanding the World- We loved making bread from the flour the Little Red Hen had left for us. It tasted yummy! We looked at pictures of different breads from around the world and talked about our favourites. Croissants were very popular! We also learnt about how our bread is made – it's a very long process and no wonder the little red hen was so exhausted! Luckily everyone helped us make our bread rolls so we all enjoyed eating them! We continue to spot changes in our garden especially as the grass is getting wetter and muddier. On Friday, we have been looking at how we keep safe on bonfire night. We watched some beautiful firework displays on the interactive white board and learnt about why we celebrate on the 5th November!

Expressive Arts and Design- This week we have been very busy on the art table making masks, making patterns using the Little Red Hen and printing firework pictures using toilet roll tubes and lots of glitter. We loved dancing at our Halloween disco and some of the moves were very scary!

Supporting learning at home

- Why not try some different breads at home. How do they taste, feel and smell?
- Challenge your children to do up their coats by themselves and fasten their shoes! We are improving each week. Keep at it!
- Can you spot things beginning with the phonemes we are learning 'e', 'l' and 'h'? Ask your children tell you the rhyme we learn to help us to write it.
- Challenge your child to spot numbers 1, 2 and 3 on doors/number plates/lamp posts when you are out and about. Can they tell you which numbers is bigger/smaller or 1 more/less than the number just spotted?

Notes for next week 6.11.23

- Appropriate outdoor wear (coats, hats and gloves) and water bottles to be in school every day, please.
- Please do not allow your children to play with the bikes and toys after school. It takes a long time to tidy everything away.
- Have a look on the school website in our class folder. Lots of photos from term 1 have been uploaded!

www.theelmsprimary.co.uk

Have a lovely weekend!