

Reception Newsletter- Week beginning: 27.11.23



Term 2 topic- Tell me a story **Our story of the week- 'The Three Little Pigs'.**

Personal, Social and Emotional Development- We are trying so hard to stick to our School Rules as we know this makes our school a happy and safe place to be. We continue to work together and look out for our friends. If we see that someone is looking sad, we know lots of ways to try and make them happy again! We are getting much better at sharing our toys and we know that the toys are here to make everyone happy.

Communication and Language- Oh how we love to chat in Reception! We have really enjoyed reading the traditional tales this term and have loved retelling the stories. We are now excellent at getting into character using the role play masks and thinking about what the characters might say. This week we loved joining in with the familiar refrains in the story of the three pigs! We like to talk to our friends and our teachers about what we are doing. We also enjoy explaining how our models work or why we have chosen a particular resource to create something. We love to ask questions, especially when we don't know the meaning of a word, which makes us great learners!

Physical Development- Brrrrr, it's been cold outside this week, and we have had to wrap up very warm and run around to keep warm. We always exercise our fine motor skills in Reception through a variety of activities. At the malleable table this week, we have explored bricks and shaving foam, used playdough, and explored different materials to make houses for the Three Little Pigs. The malleable resources, as well as many of the activities in the class, strengthen our fingers to help us be brilliant writers and artists! We are so active outside, and love to develop our gross motor skills by throwing and catching balls using the rebounder on the playground, using tennis rackets and hockey sticks and moving around the outside area in different ways.

Literacy- This week we were very excited to learn our first digraphs and call them 'special friends'! We know that two letters together can make one sound. We learned 'nk', 'th' and 'sh', read some two and three letter words and practised our oral blending and letter formation every day in phonics. Some of the children have really enjoyed reading Ditties together this week and are bringing them home to practise and other children have been sounding out and blending three letter words using the Sound Blending books. We are getting really good at quickly hearing the sounds in two and three letter words, pinching them onto our Fred Fingers and writing them in our phonics books. We also love to write on post its, notepads and clipboards around the classroom.

Mathematics- We love maths! It is everywhere and we use it all the time! We continue our quick maths sessions where we count in different ways, recognise our numerals and practise writing them. We count on and back down again. We have been learning all about the number 5 this week. We have been estimating how many cubes we can collect in one hand and then putting them on a fives frame to make it easier to subitise. We are very good at 'knowing' the number before counting. We have also been thinking about taking away and sang Five Current Buns in a Baker's Shop. We acted out the song and saw the numbers were getting smaller each time. We were also looking at the differences between squares and rectangles.

Understanding the World- We have been talking about why the wolf was able to blow down the houses made of straw and brick and why the brick house did not fall down. We even tested it out by building houses made of different materials. We have wrapped up warmly this week and have enjoyed the cold weather during outside time. We love our changing seasons!

Expressive Arts and Design- We are a creative bunch in Reception! We enjoy acting out little scenarios during our choosing a job time and outside play, pretending to be characters from a variety of stories and engaging in teacher role play! We love to pretend to be Mrs Howell and reenact our phonics sessions with our sound cards. At the art table we have been busy collaging houses for the three little pigs, making houses from a variety of materials.

Supporting learning at home

- Ask your child to tell you about their favourite traditional tale... why was this their favourite? What do they know about traditional tales?
- Challenge your child(ren) to do up their coat, fasten their shoes and put on their gloves by themselves!
- Ask your child(ren) which sounds they have been learning and to tell you the rhymes we learn to help us to write them. Can you spot anything at home beginning with these sounds? Remember our special friends 'sh', 'th' and 'ch'.
- Can your child write any small word with all the sounds we have learnt? Remember your Fred fingers, stretch the word and then pinch the sounds on your fingers before writing them down.
- Can you find items around the house which will blow down like the 2 little pigs' houses? Do you know what material they are made of?
- Can you retell the story of The Three Little Pigs' together and ask us what we know about traditional tales.

Notes for next week 04.12.23

- Appropriate outdoor wear and water bottles to be in school every day. Thank you.
- Please ensure book bags are in every day, thank you.
- If you have not brought your child's costume into school, please can we have it by Thursday 7th December. Please put it in a named plastic bag.
- Our 'Sleepy Shepherd Nativity' performances are on Tuesday 12th December at 2pm and Thursday 14th December at 9.30am. There are no limits to how many people can attend.

Have a lovely weekend!