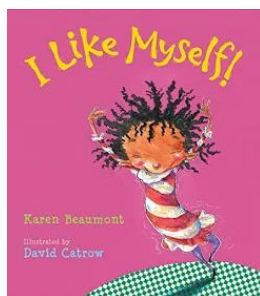


## Reception Newsletter- Week beginning: 11.9.23

Term 1 topic- Who am I? Who are my family?

Our story of the week- 'I Like Myself' by Karen Beaumont



Wow what a busy week! The children have really settled into school life so well and we are so proud of them. They have coped with the first week at school really well. We think you might have some tired grumpy children this weekend though!

Personal, Social and Emotional Development- In class we have been talking about expectations, praising good manners and making the right choices. Setting expectations from the very start ensures the children are aware of what is required and enables them to feel secure. The children are settling well into the routines and boundaries in Reception and are enjoying exploring their new surroundings.

We started our Jigsaw sessions this week. These sessions help us listen to and respond to one another appropriately. They assist us with expressing our feelings and help us get to know each other.

Communication and Language- We have had lots of discussions about ourselves this week and enjoyed our 'tell me about' chat. You can view your child's responses in the classroom window. We also spoke about what makes a good listener. We know we have to sit still, look at the person talking and only talk if we are holding Paws the cat.

### Physical Development-

We have enjoyed using a variety of equipment on our playground and the didi cars have been very popular. We love the outdoors in Reception and use it every day. In Reception, we spend a lot of time developing our fine and gross motor skills, and this week we have focused on putting cheerios on spaghetti and using the scissors to cut along wiggly lines. This week we started 'squiggle' to support our gross motor skills and dough disco to support our fine motor skills. These are so much fun! In squiggle we hold a 'flipper flapper' (flannel) in each hand. Our teacher puts on some music and we copy the way our teachers move their arms. Ask us to show you some moves! In dough disco we have a little ball of playdough and manipulate it with our fingers and hands to music! Great fun!

We also started dough disco this week. This strengthens the muscles in our fingers and hands to develop our fine motor skills, and help us draw and write. We have a little ball of playdough and manipulate it with our fingers and hands to music! Great fun!

Literacy- We have loved reading and exploring our story of the week, 'I Like Myself' and have enjoyed our end of day stories. The children are also enjoying using our book corners to share stories and information books with their friends. We are very excited about starting our phonics sessions next week!

Mathematics- We have been completing the Reception Baseline Assessment this week and will be starting Maths sessions next week. We have however, been practising our counting and number recognition in our play and in the number songs we have been singing.

Understanding the World- One of the children noticed a non-fiction book all about sharks in the book corner and we had a whole class discussion about where sharks live. One child asked me if we had Sharks in England and the children loved looking at pictures of Basking sharks on the interactive white board. Even though they look scary, the children were amazed that they wouldn't harm them because they have no teeth!

Expressive Arts and Design- We have looked carefully in the mirror to make super collage faces. We also love to explore paint freely and we painted our hands to print... lovely and messy! Our role play areas are busy every day and a great way to develop communication and interaction between the children (and adults).

#### Supporting learning at home

- Challenge your child to dress and undress themselves!
- Challenge them to put on their coat and fasten their shoes!
- Talk about the numbers you can see when you are out and about – for example door numbers, prices in shops.

#### Notes for next week 18.9.23

- Remember coats, book bags and water bottles (with only water in please) to be in school every day.
- Fruit and milk is provided to all children every day but if you would like your child to eat something else for snack, please provide them with a healthy alternative.
- Every Monday we will be visiting the school library. On Monday your child will come home with a library book for you to share together. The children are not expected to read these books. Please make sure it is in your child's book bag ready to change the following Monday.

Thank you for all your support this week. It has been lovely getting to know you and your wonderful children.

Have a lovely weekend!