

Reception Newsletter- Week beginning: 18.09.23

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

Our story of the week- 'Anna Hibiscus' song' by Atinuke Lauren Tobia



What a busy week it has been! The weather has been a bit miserable this week but we have been outside and enjoying the rain lots still.

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 have also been using our listening skills and remembering our school rules – be ready, be respectful, be safe!

In our jigsaw session this week, we looked at different toys around the class and discussed which we liked and why. The children were asked if they have any of these toys or if they have different toys at home. Just like these toys we are all different. We are unique but part of our class family. This is what makes our school a wonderful place to be.

Communication and Language- We have had lots of discussions about ourselves this week and have been thinking about who is in our family. Thank you for your participation in sticker homework this week... 'Tell me what makes me happy.' The children were so keen to tell us what you had told them. Lots of children loved a good cuddle!

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 PE this week we learnt that it is important to warm up our muscles before we start exercising. We pretended we were getting on our bikes, putting our helmets on and moving around the hall. We then practised lots of different skills, such as marching and running on the spot, balancing on one leg and moving forwards, backwards and sideways. We listened to the song 'I'm riding on my bike' and practised moving in different ways to the music. We galloped, took giant strides, hopped, ran and then chose our own way of travelling. We reflected on what we were especially good at and what we thought we needed to practise.

Ask us about Gonoodle! This is a fun activity break which helps us move around and makes us think! We love banana banana meatball!

We also continue to love dough disco. 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, 'Anna Hibiscus' song,' 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 started our phonics sessions this week and have been practising orally blending with Fred Frog. We have some phonics stay and play sessions coming up so look out for dates!

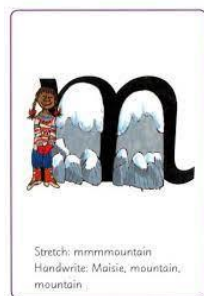
Mathematics- We have been finishing off our baseline maths assessments this week and will be starting our maths sessions next week. We have been doing lots of counting and have been using lots of positional language through our play. The children have been investigation the Numicon and have been very impressed when they've filled the Numicon tiles without leaving any gaps – well done!

Understanding the World- We have looked at Amazing Africa this week as this is where Anna Hibiscus is from. She hid in the Mango tree in the story and we have had great conversations about our favourite fruit!

Expressive Arts and Design- We are a very creative bunch in Reception. 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! We enjoyed our book of the week, 'Anna Hibiscus' so much, we created a picture from the book using pastels and collage. Our role play areas are busy every day and a great way to develop communication and interaction between the children.

Supporting learning at home

- Challenge your child to dress and undress themselves! Getting changed for PE this week was a challenge so helping teach your child how to dress and underdd independently would be greatly appreciated.
- 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.
- Recap the sounds we have learnt at school this week...



Notes for next week 25.9.23

- Remember coats, book bags and water bottles (with only water in please) to be in school every day.
- Mrs Henman is our wonderful HLTA and she will be teaching the class until 11 am on Tuesdays and all day Thursdays.
- Please can you make sure PE kit is kept in school all term. Lots of children were also missing socks in their PE kit.

Have a lovely weekend!