

Reception Newsletter- Week beginning: 17.10.23

Term 1 topic- Who am I?

Our story of the week- "The Enormous Turnip"



Thank you all so much for coming to our phonics stay and play sessions. We loved having you all in the classroom and we hope it was useful for you.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development- We have been continuing to develop our listening skills as we learn and play together. We are remembering our class rules to ensure we learn and stay safe. We have also been concentrating on taking turns with our friends as we play together. In Jigsaw this week the theme is Being me at School. We thought about how important it is to work together as part of a class team and make sure everyone is helping at tidy up time. We discussed how we would feel if someone did not share and why we should look after our classrooms and equipment. We decided it was much more fun to work as a team to get our jobs done.

Communication and Language- There was no sticker homework this week but it will return next week. We have learnt lots of new words and vocabulary during our daily phonics sessions – 'phonemes', 'sound buttons', 'blending', 'phoneme frame' - and some children are using these during the sessions. They love to remind us when we have forgotten something! Toast Tuesday is still a big part of our week and we love talking to our friends whilst eating toast!

Physical Development- To help develop our fine motor skills we have enjoyed exploring play dough, threading beads onto pipe cleaners and making patterns on our pin boards. We have also been busy cutting and sticking in the making areas and using various building and constructing toys. The pumpkins have been a great hit and we have loved hammering in golf tees and then pulling the flesh apart – messy! Dough Disco is great fun to help us strengthen our fingers for writing. We are also enjoying squiggle while you wiggle where we practise our gross motor skills. We dance with our flipper flappers to music and then draw the dance with chunky pens; one in each hand. Make sure you have a look at our dance drawings when we tape them to the window. We have been pirates during our PE lessons this week. We have practised jumping, hopping, fighting and cleaning like a prate. We were so good at our pretend sword fighting and no-one was touched – good listening children!

Literacy- We are learning lots of new sounds to help us to begin reading and writing. The children have enjoyed playing sounding out and blending phonics games and putting words into phoneme frames. We all very much enjoyed our parents coming into see how phonics is taught at school – thank you so much for coming! The children have really enjoyed our story of the week and were very excited when we all acted out the story as a class. We loved ordering the story pictures and could re-tell the story really well. We looked for good adjectives we could use to describe the turnip. We continue to look at a variety of fiction and non-fiction books and share them with our friends.

Mathematics- We have continued to practise counting in 1s to 20, recognising our numbers to 20, forming our numbers correctly, counting up to 10 and back down again, and saying what is one more and one less than a given number. We have also been measuring length with cubes and using the vocabulary longer and shorter – we were very good at this. We have looked at capacity this week. We were very good at identifying who had more milk in their cups during snack time!

Understanding the World- We continue to spot many changes in the world around us and the field looks different each week, showing so many different signs of Autumn. Children have had great fun at the weekend collecting lots of different Autumn things and sharing these with the class.

Expressive Arts and Design- We were very busy on the art table again this week. We have been printing with Autumn leaves and could even see all the leaf veins! We have also enjoyed finger and dot painting pumpkin pictures this week. Some of us even loved to get our hands covered in paint to do hand printing! We are not only creative at the art table, we are still enjoying our role play and our independent 'making' areas!

Supporting learning at home

- Challenge the children to count. How many bananas in the fruit bowl? How many fingers on everyone's hands in the family?
- Can you play 'I spy.... using the phonemes we have been learning?
- Can the children spot any signs of Autumn as you are out and about? If you find any Autumn objects do bring them in for us to put on the investigation table.
- Why not make some gloop at home. Just mix cornflower and a little bit of water and see what happens.

Notes for week beginning 16.10.23

- Remember Friday 20th October is an Inset day.
- School finishes at 3.15pm on Thursday 19th October.
- Parents Evenings are on Tuesday 17th and Wednesday 18th October in the main hall.
- Please ensure you have warm PE kit for your child to wear after half term.
- Please make sure that coats, water bottles and book bags are in school every day, all **labelled with your child's name.**
- Remember library day is Monday – please bring your library book back on this day every week.
- Please can we ask that you don't allow your children play with the activities that are set up outside or ride the vehicles.

Have a lovely weekend, everyone!