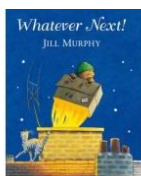


## Reception Newsletter- Week beginning: 26.02.24

Term 4 topic- How do we get around? Our story of the week- "Whatever Next!"



**Another very busy, but very exciting week!**

**Personal, Social and Emotional Development**- In our Jigsaw time we have been talking about how we stay healthy and active and why this is important. We thought about how our body responds to exercise and activity - we felt our hearts as we were resting, then we played an active game and afterwards felt our hearts again. We could feel they were now beating quickly, pumping blood around our bodies. The children said they felt "healthy" and "strong".

**Communication and Language**- We had some lovely discussions about space, the planets, what we might find on the moon and even gravity. We loved watching and chatting about clips of astronauts on the international space station brushing their teeth, going to bed and moving around the space station. We also looked at photographs and talked about all the different kinds of air transport. Ask us how many we can remember! Toast Tuesday was back this week and we very much enjoy using this social time to talk to our friends whilst being independent when preparing our food.

**Physical Development**- We continue to develop our fine motor skills by threading, handwriting, cutting and using building and construction toys. We have enjoyed exploring the water beads and using the play dough with pipe cleaners and beads to create our own aliens. This all helps to make our fingers strong for writing, drawing and playing.

**Literacy**- In our story of the week, baby bear took a picnic to the moon. We talked about what we might pack, drew pictures and labelled our picnic. Some of our lunchboxes contained some very funny items! We have also looked at some non-fiction books about space and read lots of story books. We are finding out lots of interesting facts! We are using the phonemes we have learnt in our phonics sessions more in our independent writing which is exciting to see.

**Mathematics**- We have continued to practise counting in 1s, 2s, 5s, and 10s; recognising our numbers to 20 and beyond; doubling and halving; forming our numbers correctly; counting up to 10 and back down again; saying what is one more and one less than a given number. This week we have been focusing on addition and subtraction as we practised taking away aliens on space ships. We have practised writing addition and subtraction number sentences by saying our number sentences aloud and then writing them, using the +, - and = symbols. For example,  $5 - 1 = 4$ . We have also started to use number tracks to help us with these number sentences. We know that we never jump on the spot, jump forward when we are adding and backwards when we are taking away.

**Understanding the World**- We have been looking at Space and learning about all the different planets. We have watched lots of video clips of astronauts in space and found it very funny that they were floating around in their spaceship. It was especially funny when the astronauts were throwing food in the air to catch in their mouth. We know that this is because there is no gravity in space! We have been looking at pictures of the surface of the moon in science this week. We mixed cornflour and baby oil in a tray to make the surface of the moon and investigated how craters are made by dropping objects into the tray. We experimented with the weight of the objects and the height at which they were dropped. We loved playing in the 'moon dust' after the experiment!

**Expressive Arts and Design** - A lot of chatter can be heard in our role-play areas as we enjoy role-playing with our friends. At the art table we have cut out shapes to make rockets out of toilet rolls and painted our own aliens. In our music lesson this week we moved to music, found the 'pulse,' talked about the tempo and talked about how it made us feel.

Please keep checking the website for photos of our exciting experiences in Reception.

[www.theelmsprimary.co.uk](http://www.theelmsprimary.co.uk)

Ideas for fun learning at home

- Why not draw pictures sequencing your day and bring it in to show us.
- Practise using the words first, next, then, after, finally when describing the order you do things in.
- Tell your family something you have learnt about space and the planets.
- Practise writing numbers to 20.
- How many different types of transport can you think of? Write a list and show your teacher.

Notes for next week 04.03.24

- Library books are changed every Monday – please make sure your child brings their old one to school on Monday.
- Please make sure book bags and phonics packs are **in school everyday**.
- Reading books are changed on a Wednesday. Please make sure your child's clear plastic folder (RWI Pack) with their books inside, is brought into school every Wednesday.
- Wednesday is our fire station trip. Thank you for all the parent offers of help. Please come to school wearing your school uniform.
- Next Thursday is world book day. Please come to school dressed as a word eg, 'red' come dressed in red, 'sporty' come dressed in sports clothing.

**Enjoy the weekend and see you on Monday.**