

Early Years Newsletter



Friday 30th November 2018

King Henry VIII Preparatory School

Academic Year 2018-2019

Issue 10

NURSERY NEWS

Our Sing-Along takes place on Wednesday 5th December at 9:15 and the children have been practising their songs in readiness for parents who will hopefully be joining us on this day. The children have learnt a variety of songs and have all been singing beautifully! We hope this continues when they have an audience! The children have also been very busy making Christmas hats for our performance, using Christmas stampers, paint, glitter and sparkles. They have all been very creative and are looking forward to their Christmas performance!



Please could children come to Nursery dressed in their best sparkly party clothes on the day of our Christmas Sing Along. We thought this would be lovely for the children and also make the day extra special for them.

We are in the process of beginning our Christmas displays and the children have begun some fantastic art work to contribute to these! They have worked together, exploring different media and materials to express their own creativity. They have made snowmen, snowflakes, wrapped presents and have also made a fantastic Santa!



The children have been participating in a super Numeracy activity with the Numicon. They used pegs to make a Numicon pattern and were challenged to find the corresponding shape. They all worked really hard and showcased some fantastic Numeracy skills!



Please can we remind parents that school winter uniform should be worn whilst attending Nursery. This includes a school hat, scarf and coat. Please note that during the Early Years trip on Friday 7th December the correct uniform should also be worn. Even though it is a non-uniform day in school, due to the trip, Nursery children must arrive in full school uniform. Thank you!

Read, Write, Inc.

The children have been looking at 'n' and 'p' this week. Once again we have had some wonderful items brought in from home. We shall be continuing next week with the letters 'g' and 'o' and if children have any items at home beginning with these letters, they are welcome to bring them in to share with us. Thank you to parents for supporting us in helping the children look for these items at home.

Next week we have another fun packed week as Christmas fast approaches. We shall be decorating the Nursery together with fun and festive activities taking place. Of course, our Sing-Along will also take place next Wednesday and on Friday we have our trip. Phew what a busy week ahead!

We would like to say a big thank you to one of our parents who sent in a big turnip from his farm. Having read 'The Enormous Turnip' story in Nursery, it was lovely for the children to see a real turnip!



Dates to Remember:

Nursery Christmas Party - This will take place during the afternoon of Tuesday 18th December. If any morning children would like to stay on and join us for this, they are very welcome to do so and the party should end by 3:00pm. Please let Nursery staff know as soon as possible if any morning children would like to stay all day.

Parents Evening - This will take place on 15th January. More details of this will follow.

Have a lovely weekend,

The Nursery Team

RECEPTION NEWS

Dear Parents,

Well the weather has certainly felt more Autumnal over the last few days, with the temperatures dropping and winds rising. As it has been getting harder to keep warm, especially chilly playtimes, our lovely chef Steven has come to the rescue with hot chocolate. How fantastic! The children were so grateful for a warming treat for both their tummies and their hands. Maybe this will become a King Henry's tradition! A huge thank you to the kitchen for their kindness and time.



Thank you

This week we can feel that Christmas is in the air! We have been busy practising our play each afternoon - learning our lines and remembering our dances and also when we need to come off and on the stage. These are all very complex skills for children so young. We have been pleased with how well the children are trying. Miss Soan was so impressed when she came down one lesson that the children were actually asking her if they could do their practice. They proceeded to show her their part of 'A King is Born' without needing any help at all. It all bodes well for a great show! Sadly, we can't show any photographs as it will ruin the surprise! There will be a chance to buy a photograph of your child after the show though!

In **Literacy**, we have been starting to write our News on a Monday morning. The children have been trying to open with a clear beginning, for example 'At the weekend I.....'. Later, we will think about incorporating a good ending too! With our thoughts turning to Christmas, we started writing our letters to Father Christmas in **Topic** lessons. We had to think long and hard about whether we had been, 'good all of the time', 'good some of the time' or 'naughty but nice'! You must have raised your children very well indeed because they all said that they had been 'good all of the time'! Model children at home and school!



In **Maths**, we have moved on to subtraction. We started the week by thinking about what subtraction meant and how it was different to addition. We then physically used counters and objects to carry out simple subtraction activities and then recorded them on post-it notes or in our books. It is always good to perform these processes physically first, even for those children who can mentally calculate the answers in their head. It is vital to be able to accurately count out and move items correctly. Some found it trickier than they thought and some found it much easier! We are trying to instil an 'I can do this!' philosophy in everyone - even if it looks tricky, try your hardest and you will get it!

Self directed play is still a very important part of Reception as children develop their imagination, follow an interest and learn to interact positively with others. All these are key Early Learning Goals and are just as vital as other more formal skills. They are fundamental in making our children rounded, well adjusted and happy. Enabling them to be able to relax and internalise what they have just learnt and be brave enough to try new experiences. It is also a time when they may build preferences that inspire them for the rest of their life—maybe they may want to be an optician, for example!



Notices

Costumes—Well done to those of you who have been extremely organised and already brought in your child's costume, clearly named. If you do have any queries about what your child needs, please do ask your form teacher. All the children will also need their PE shoes to wear on their feet. If your child is wearing a dress or tabard then we suggest tights or leggings/slim trousers are worn underneath to keep them warm and snug!

PE/Games kit—Another plea to check that your child's clothing has the correct name please!

School uniform—Just to echo what was mentioned in Sagitta, please could you ensure that your child is wearing the appropriate school uniform. We have had children wearing trainers or boots instead of the regulation black school shoes, leggings instead of tights and roll tops under shirts. We understand that it is getting colder but it is important that the children all still look smart and are dressed according to our policy. We will bring them inside if it gets too chilly outside. Thank you so much for your understanding!

Hats, gloves, coats and jumpers—Please could you ensure that these are very clearly named. We have already had some go missing and it is hard to locate them if they are not labelled with your child's full name. Initials are not so helpful or easy to decode. Miss Cook already has lots of unnamed jumpers and staff have collections of unnamed hats and gloves. Thank you for your cooperation.

Have a wonderful weekend. We hope you hear back from Father Christmas soon!

Thank you!

The Reception Team