

Early Years Newsletter



Friday 18th January 2019

King Henry VIII Preparatory School

Academic Year 2018-2019

Issue 14

NURSERY NEWS

We would like to begin by saying our new children have continued to settle extremely well into Nursery and all of our existing children have welcomed them amazingly. We are really proud of them all!

We promote independence at Nursery and encourage the children to find the correct coat on their peg and hang it back up again once we have been outside. For the benefit of our new children who have just started with us, it may help if parents could tie a piece of ribbon onto the standard coat hook which is inside the collar of all school coats. This would enable your child to hang their coat onto the peg and make it easier for them by using their ribbon. This may also help children to recognise which coat is theirs, as they will get to know which ribbon they have. Thank you in anticipation for your support with this.

Favourite Stories

During this term we shall be continuing to use a range of books, stories and rhymes to enhance the children's learning and development. We have begun by looking at the story of 'The Polar Bear and the Snow Cloud'. The children have been expressing their creativity whilst making some amazing winter animals such as a large polar bear, penguins and even some igloo's - these are displayed on the wall in Nursery. The large scale art work has also promoted collaboration between the children as they have worked together to share resources and create the wonderful display. The children have also used scissors to make some fantastic sparkly snowflakes with a variety of shapes and sizes. This has also promoted physical skills and the use of tools and equipment whilst the children cut special shapes in the paper and decorated their snowflake.



Along the theme of winter, the Playdoh has been enhanced with a snowy effect. The children have added silver sparkles and shiny snowflakes to the white playdoh. We have had some wonderful creations made, such as 'snowmen', 'snowballs' and 'winter animals'!



Our winter theme continued into our music session this week with the children singing a snowy song about a brown bear hibernating. We also talked about why some animals hibernate in the winter. Musical instruments were chosen which sounded like snowflakes softly falling to the ground. The children then had a super time listening to the different sounds they made while playing the instruments in time to the tune!

We shall continue with the story of 'The Polar Bear and the Snow Cloud' next week with lots more 'icy' activities planned, before moving onto another fantastic story.

Nursery will soon be celebrating Chinese New Year, which this year is on the 5th February. We have a variety of fun activities planned for the children prior to this day to allow them to experience the Chinese Culture. The children will be making dragons, Chinese lanterns and also tasting Chinese food. If parents would like to make any contributions towards Chinese New Year then please speak to a member of staff - This could be in the form of a parent coming in to speak to the children, or a kind contribution of any Chinese items of interest! Many thanks in advance.

Read, Write, Inc.

The children have been looking at the letters 'u' and 'b' this week. We have had some wonderful items brought in from home and the children have enjoyed discussing and sorting these items into the correct sound boxes during group times. We shall be continuing next week with the letters 'f' and 'e', and once again if children have any items at home beginning with these letters they are welcome to bring them in to share with us.

Parents' Evening

Thank you to parents for attending our Parents Evening this week - it was a great success and it was lovely to see you all and discuss your child's progress! Once our new children have also settled at Nursery, we shall be happy to meet with parents at some point during this half term to discuss how your child has settled and the progress they are making. Thank you!

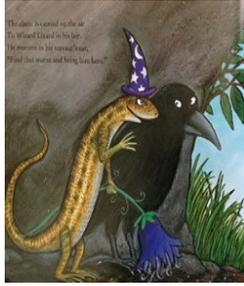
Have a lovely weekend,

The Nursery Team

RECEPTION NEWS

Hello from us all in Reception.

Thank you for taking the time to come and meet with us on Tuesday evening. It was really pleasant and a great opportunity to discuss academic progress but also a lovely chance to chat about how your children are getting on socially too. They are a bubbly, happy Year group and we are so happy with them, hopefully you are all really proud of them too.



Superheroes continues and this week we met Super worm, a lovely character from a Julia Donaldson book. The children loved the story, so much so that you might here the rhyme, 'Super worm is super strong, Super worm is super long,' being repeated at home! You might also experience shock and anger when you innocently walk past a crow on the field and your child shrieks, "Oh no! It's Wizard Lizard's helper!" This enthusiasm is wonderful and it brings out the imaginative side of your child's personality.

With worms in the forefront of our minds, we focused on **length** in Maths this week. The children went on a hunt outdoors to dig for worms and describe and compare them in terms of size. They also collected sticks and twigs and lay them down in order of size. We love taking our learning outside and the children do too! In the classroom, the children rolled Playdoh worms and described and compared their lengths. They measured items from the classroom using cubes and ordered beanstalks by height... who knew learning could be so much fun!



In Literacy, we asked the children to come up with their own 'magic spell' words that could be used to free Super Worm, should he be caught again! Wow!! The children rose to the occasion and we had really ambitious words, from 'ziggaty, zaggety zoom' to 'abracadabra,' to 'fizz bang pop!' and more! They all attempted to use 'Fred Fingers' to spell the words independently and did very well.

Read Write Ink began this week and on Monday morning the children met their new teachers for this lesson. All have settled perfectly well and are working hard in their groups. If you are unsure of any of the RWI terminology, particularly those of you who didn't attend the Phonics Evening, please chat to your child's form teacher, who will happily bring you up to speed.

Last week, the children enjoyed making bird food during Forest Fun. We know it is important to sustain bird and wild life during the winter months and the children understood too. They melted lard, mixed in seeds and sultanas and a dash of grated cheese... all a little messy, but they did not shy away from preparing it. It looked delicious, (sort of, if you are a bird).

Reminders:

Please read the Superhero letter that came home from school this week, very carefully as it contains information about forthcoming events and activities. The first one is the need for a vegetable to be sent in with your child, as we are going to be transforming them into Super veggies!

Woody bear, from RL, has gone missing. He is sorely missed at school and we fear he will be homesick, so please, if you know of his whereabouts, Mrs Lidder would love to hear from you.

Konstantinos, RL, has lost an entire Forest Fun kit in a white carrier bag. It is named so please can you check and see if you have picked it up by mistake.

Superhero Parent's afternoon will be taking place on Thursday 31st January, from 2pm.

Superhero Day will be taking place on Friday 1st February

It is forecast to be very cold next week. Please send your children to school in a coat, hat and gloves. All of these can be purchased from the school shop, Number 57 School wear in Coundon, and it is important that we maintain high standards with our uniform.



Have a lovely weekend and we will see you again on Monday!