

# Early Years Newsletter



Friday 15th February 2019

King Henry VIII Preparatory School

Academic Year 2018-2019

Issue 18

## NURSERY NEWS

Love has been in the air in Nursery this week. The children have enjoyed making valentine cards with paint and sparkles. We had some wonderful creations with a range of media used. The children chatted about their family and friends and also the special people in their lives, deciding who they would like to give their card to!



During outdoor activities the children have been investigating and exploring red pasta bows, mixed with sparkly hearts and glitter. This resulted in the children sorting and arranging the hearts, counting them and extending their Numeracy skills. They used their sens-

es, talked about the textures and discussed how the pasta changed colour to red. The children also showcased their physical skills to pick up and collect the items using the tweezers. They also filled the containers, which led to discussions surrounding full and empty.

Forest Fun was also fantastic this week as the children collected hearts and arrows, while also matching numbers together.



Valentines has even stretched to our water play activity this week, with hearts and glitter floating in the red water. The children had fun searching for the hearts in the water and collecting them.

This also enabled them to also explore basic maths and science concepts such as sinking and floating.

## Read, Write, Inc.

The children have been looking at the letters 'v' and 'y' this week. We have had some super items brought in from home which the children have enjoyed discussing and sorting into the correct sound boxes. We have had a few toy vacuum cleaners, and also many yellow items! Thank you to parents for supporting your children in looking for these items and talking about the specific sounds with them at home. We shall be continuing after the half term holiday with the letters 'w' and 'z'. If children have any items at home beginning with these letters they are welcome to bring them in to share with us.

## World Book Day

World book day will take place on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March. Children are welcome to dress up as their favourite book character on this day, and bring a favourite story to Nursery.

## Forthcoming Topic

Our topic after half term is based on the important topic of 'People who help us'. As part of this topic we plan to make structures such as fire engines and police cars from junk modelling resources. Therefore, please could we ask for contributions of any small boxes and cartons such as egg boxes and kitchen roll tubes which can be sent to Nursery on the first week back after the holiday. If parents would like to help recycle and collect these items for Nursery to use it would be much appreciated.

If any parents would like to come into Nursery to talk to the children regarding the job they do and what their role entails, this would be much appreciated. If you are able to visit next half term to speak to the Nursery children about any aspect of this important topic, or maybe bring in items of interest, then please speak to a member of the Nursery team. Thank you.

This topic will be fantastic for the children to learn about safety and the important services within the community in which we live.

We hope parents and children have a lovely half term holiday and we shall see you on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February.

The Nursery Team

## RECEPTION NEWS

We are sure you will agree with us that we are ready for a holiday! The gloomy January days are beginning to give way to longer, brighter and warmer ones but having crammed so much in to our Superhero topic, it is evident that the children are tired. May we take this opportunity to wish you a wonderful week for half term. We look forward to your return when the children will be moving onto their new topic, Fairy tales.

This week the children were treated to the dress rehearsal performance of the Year 1 play Pirates Vs Mermaids. It was wonderful, with so many catchy songs and the especially popular, Baby Shark number! Reception really enjoyed it and for the teachers, looking at how last year's Reception children have grown up, it was wonderful. This will be your little ones' next year and already they seem to have matured so much since September.

In Maths we have continued looking at shape, 2D and 3D, or flat and solid as we also refer to them. We are moving towards Maths Mastery in the school and as such we like to develop their understanding of concepts to a really deep level so that they can think and make links for themselves. This does involve over teaching topics so that the children are so comfortable with exploring further themselves. So many of the children will spot 3D shapes in the environment now so that is brilliant.



In Literacy we have been looking at healthy eating. The children had to make their own healthy lunch box by choosing from a number of picture items and sticking them on their lunchbox template. It was interesting and pleasing to see that so many of our children independently chose fruits and yoghurts over and above cakes and crisps. But of course, children do like treats and there were lots of "are chocolate cakes healthy?" questions!

We have also made Valentines Cards for those extra special parents in our lives. No doubt you will have received them by now and we are sure you will have loved them.



We hope you have a wonderful week away from school. Please let your children rest well so that they come back ready for a busy 7 weeks half term. As we said, the topic will be Fairy tales so we will be looking at lots of lovely stories.

All the best,

The Reception Team