

Early Years Newsletter



Friday 21st September 2018

King Henry VIII Preparatory School

Academic Year 2018-2019

Issue 2

NURSERY NEWS



'Favourite Stories and Nursery Rhymes'

The children have been very busy this week at Nursery learning about 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'. They have enjoyed a variety of fun and exciting activities such as making bears out of play dough

and using their imagination to recite the story with small world toys and the Goldilocks story box. The children also made porridge to eat during their cooking session whilst choosing whether to add honey to their bowl of porridge, "Yummy"!



The children have also enjoyed listening to different variations of the story and re-telling their own version through play scenarios. For example, during outdoor play, children were filling bowls with porridge oats and using high and low voices to re-enact the bears!

We shall continue with the story of 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears' next week before moving onto another exciting story. Once again, if your child would like to bring any toys or books relating to this story we would love to share them in Nursery.

As the cold weather approaches, please could all children come to Nursery wearing a coat, as we do go outside during the day. We are currently promoting independence and helping the children find the correct coat on their peg and encouraging them to hang it back up once we have come inside. 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.



We have introduced 'snack mats' which the children have begun to use during morning snack time. The children have made these themselves and will help to promote their own individuality and independence, whilst also helping with name recognition and Literacy skills at snack times.

Thank you very much to parents for sending in special family photos for the children to share in Nursery. It has been a delight sharing these during our group times and also becoming familiar with children's extended family members. We have made a wonderful display of these photos in Nursery which the children are enjoying admiring and talking about with their friends, while also pointing out which are their special photos!



Please could we remind parents to name everything; snack boxes, water bottles and all clothing including shoes and wellington boots. This helps staff enormously throughout the day and also ensures if something is lost we can make sure it finds its way to the right child!

We would like to say once again how beautifully the children have settled into Nursery. They are all very happy and are forming new friendships, which is lovely to see.

Have a good weekend,

The Nursery Team

RECEPTION NEWS

We are at the end of our second full week at school and what a busy week it has been! The children are settled and getting used to the routines of school life now. Each morning we are seeing less tears and more smiles, which is brilliant. Thank you for sending in the baby photos. The children loved sharing these with their friends and talking about special memories. It was also interesting to hear how they care for younger siblings, cousins and family friends. What caring, helpful children we have!



A big thank you to Ria in RF's mum for bringing in Ria's baby sister. How very brave of you! The children enjoyed hearing about how to care for a baby and the different needs they have from their own. It sparked lots of interesting conversations and questions from all!

Phonics teaching

This week we have started our Read, Write, Inc phonics programme with the children. It is used to help children in their reading, writing and spelling. Every day we introduce a sound with the help of our puppet Fred the Frog. This week we have been learning to recognise and write the sounds m,a,s,d,t and to find things in our environment that begin with these sounds. Below is a link you may find helpful which demonstrates the correct pronunciation of the sounds we will be learning:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EYx1CyDMZSc>

The children have had great fun writing their letters in shaving foam, sand, glitter, with paint and with chalks on the ground in our outdoor area.

Maths

In Maths this week we have been learning all about counting and recognising numbers! The children have counted out using lots of different objects, making sure they count slowly, touching each object with their finger as they say each number. In the outdoor area we went on a number hunt, searching for all the numbers that were hiding and then brought them together to order.



Homework books

Every Friday your child will bring home their homework book. Inside you will find the sounds we have been learning throughout the week. Over the weekend it would be helpful to assist your child with practising writing these sounds in their book, with special focus on correct pencil grip and letter formation. Please could you send these books back into school on Monday morning.

**Getting changed**

To promote independence when dressing and undressing, it would be great if you could encourage your child at home to get changed into and out of their school uniform themselves (as much as possible!). The buttons and ties are fiddly and do need help but they will get there! If this is a real struggle, as we do understand the mad morning rush doesn't allow much time, perhaps start with just one item put on independently and gradually increase. It will help greatly with changing for PE, Swimming and Games sessions and gives them extra time in these lessons.

A little reminder that swimming will be starting on Wednesday. Could you please send your child in with their swimming costume, towel and swimming hat please. All labelled!

Have a lovely weekend all.