

Early Years Newsletter



Friday 15th March 2019

King Henry VIII Preparatory School

Academic Year 2018-2019

Issue 21

NURSERY NEWS

The children have really enjoyed learning about people who help us and the very important work which they do. Thank you to parents for recycling and contributing boxes and tubes for a modelling activity. The children have enjoyed constructing their own emergency vehicles using boxes, recycling materials, paint and glue. We have had some super police cars, fire engines and even a rubbish truck! These models have all represented the real thing. Fantastic! We shall be continuing with this topic over the next few weeks and some of our parents will also be visiting the children to discuss their job role and the important work they do, together with bringing items of interest for the children to look at! Thank you to parents for offering their time and helping to contribute to the children's knowledge and learning surrounding this topic.



A supermarket has been constructed in the outdoor area and the children have discussed their own experiences and the names of the supermarket they go to, such as Sainsbury's, Tesco, Asda and Waitrose, to name a few! The children have enjoyed writing shopping lists, choosing items to buy, weighing their items, learning about money, and using their fantastic imagination to create role-play scenarios with each other!



The children have also been having a super creative time making bubbles. They thoroughly enjoyed bubble painting and we had some fantastic bubbles made with the paint. The children blew and blew through their straws to see who could make the biggest bubbles! Observing the patterns which the bubbles made on the paper was also fantastic as the children compared their patterns with each other and talked about the different shapes and colours!



The children have also been participating in a Numeracy activity using resources such as the Numicon, Compare Bears and Number cards. They worked hard to match the Number and quantity and also recognise objects in a group. They were all very proud of their achievements. Super!



Read Write Inc

The children have been revisiting the letter sounds which they have learnt this term. They are also progressing fantastically during our 'Fred groups' where they participate in a range of phonic activities to enhance these skills further. We are very proud of them!

Umberslade Farm Park - Our Nursery summer trip will take place on Thursday 23rd May 2019. Further information and payment details will be sent home during April.

Have a lovely weekend and thank you for your continued support!

The Nursery Team

RECEPTION NEWS

Hello,
We have had a lovely week at school and for those of you with older children, you may have attended the Spring Concert at Butterworth Hall, which was a fabulous start to the week. As we prepare for a small scale performance in Reception, (our lips are sealed as this is a totally secret surprise coming up for mum's, whoops!! Spoilt it!!), seeing the way our older children delivered so confidently on Monday evening, shows how they develop over the years. Giving them opportunities to speak, sing and play instruments in front of an audience, (Monday hosted over a thousand spectators!), is so valuable to help them develop self-confidence, stage presence and boldness. We are sure that our little ones will be amazing you for many more years to come but rehearsals have been underway this week and in a couple of weeks' time they will be melting your hearts!

We will start with some photos from world Book Day, as promised last week.



In Literacy, we have moved onto Little Red Riding Hood. This is a favourite for lots of the children and they were able to join in with all the key refrains, "what big eyes you have..." "all the better to see you with". We then filmed the children re-telling the story. This demonstrated their ability to organise and clarify their thoughts and use speech and language influenced by stories. It was a very interesting lesson for the teachers as some children loved it, while other's really were pushed out of their comfort zone. They have also started work on their story boxes. Designing the look and layout of the box so that they can put characters in it and play with them. They have loved it.



In Maths, the children have continued looking at money, but this week they have been adding coins together to find out the total. This is not as easy as $1p + 1p = 2p$, as the children have had to look very carefully at the value of each coin first. It may be $1p + 5p$, for example. They all rose to the challenge quite well. In addition to this, they have been making 10p in different ways, 10 1p coins, 5 2p coins, 2 5p coins and 1 10p coin. We do this without thinking about it every day, but for these children, it was a very difficult concept to grasp. If there are opportunities for your child to handle real money, or pay for things in shops, this is a fantastic way of bring theory to life and reinforcing what they have learned.



In Forest Fun, the children were asked to make cakes for Grandma. These were no ordinary cakes though as the children were outside!! Yes, we went back to our own childhood and encouraged the children to use mud, leaves, twigs and other natural materials to stir and crush and make pies with. It was a great opportunity to discuss the dangers of eating anything from the garden and to help them learn safe practices with regards to touching their faces and washing their hands. Great fun was had by all!

Thank you to all the parents who attended our Maths Mastery Workshop. It was lovely to have such a good turn out and to help you understand how and what we teach your children. Many things are taught very differently to the way we taught at school and it is important that our children get consistent help and support.

We ended the week with Crazy Hair Day, in support of Comic Relief. The children looked fantastic again!!! Photos will follow next week.

Have a lovely weekend.

Reception Team.