

# Early Years Newsletter



Friday 5th October 2018

King Henry VIII Preparatory School

Academic Year 2018-2019

Issue 4

## NURSERY NEWS

### 'Favourite Stories and Nursery Rhymes'

We are continuing along the theme of favourite stories and have begun to read and talk about 'The Three Little Pigs'. The children have been very engrossed in many fun based activities to promote and enhance their learning and development.

Construction has been a theme for this week and the builder's construction site in our outdoor area has been very popular. Children have been working together and helping each other construct houses made of straw, sticks and bricks in our large builder's tray. The children have dressed in hard hats, and high viz jackets while building their structures and deciding which houses are the strongest before trying to blow them down!



The children have also shown wonderful creativity while designing their very own 'piggy' biscuits! They decorated their biscuits beautifully, using decorations and icing. Whilst spreading the icing, the children showed fantastic physical skills and they also made super choices when selecting which food items they wanted to use to create their pig. This also prompted super discussions about a variety of colours, shapes and sizes.



During our Forest Fun session the children have been once again been exploring the natural environment and have also thoroughly enjoyed counting and learning about numbers while playing 'What's the time Mr Wolf'. We had some super

counting skills!

The children have also participated in a Numeracy activity where they looked at numeral cards and counted out the correct number of pigs into a field. This also showcased some fantastic Numeracy skills.



We would like to say thank you to our school chef who took time out of his busy schedule to spend an afternoon in Nursery. He baked some delicious bread with the children. They had a fantastic time learning about all the ingredients and the process needed to bake the bread which they eat daily with their school lunch. They especially enjoyed kneading, stretching and pounding the dough! The following day they enjoyed eating and tasting the finished product as an afternoon treat. Yummy!



## Library Visits

As the children have now settled, we have introduced visits to our school library. Each key group has their own time slot to visit the library and spend quality quiet time looking at books and stories. The children listen to stories in a group and then have the opportunity to explore the library and independently find their own favourite stories. This is also a lovely time to reinforce and reflect on our story of the week. As one of our groups of children entered the library for the first time, they responded by saying 'WOW!' This was lovely to hear and to see the amazement on their faces!

Next week will be a continuation of 'The Three Little Pigs' with further stimulating activities planned.

Have a lovely weekend.

The Nursery Team

## RECEPTION NEWS

We had our first Forest Fun session this week! We based ourselves at the bottom of the school field and in the forest fun area! Children went on an autumn hunt, collecting conkers, conker shells, twigs and leaves in a range of autumn colours, which we have used in our classroom this week for sorting and creating art pieces. We had a brilliant time playing 'Follow the leader' and other safety games to ensure children know who their group leader and partner is and so that they can return to their group when called. Once we have established clear safety guidelines and understanding, we look forward to venturing to the Memorial park for these sessions! Thank you for sending in Forest Fun kits which include waterproof clothing. They do get muddy and messy so it's best to keep uniforms covered!



In our Read, Write Inc lessons this week we have been learning the sounds c, k, u, b and f. It is fantastic to see children writing the sounds they have learnt independently in the writing area, in sand, on little notes to each other and on big whiteboards. In the classroom you can hear them saying the handwriting rhymes to themselves to help their formation. We are so proud of all they are taking on board and applying.

In Topic, as part of our Marvellous Me theme, we were lucky enough to have Mrs Madan, an optician, come in to speak to all of Reception. We had a fun and informative session which told us all about how to protect our eyes and keep them healthy. She brought in a model eye to show us how our eye works and a magnifying glass to look closely at our friends' eyes.



Some parents have asked for clarification on homework books and reading records. Homework books (A4 orange books) are sent out on Friday and are to be returned on Monday. Each week new letters are glued in for your child to practise saying the letter sound (not the letter name) and writing the letter in their book, using the correct learnt formation. Reading books are changed every Monday and Thursday and children read to an adult on these days also. When you hear your child read at home could you please sign the reading record (A5 yellow/orange book) and let us know how they got on. Thank you for your support.

#### Reminders

- Please could you ensure your child's morning snack is fruit or fruit based.
  - The nasal flu vaccination will be on Wednesday 10th. You may find it useful to discuss this with your child beforehand to prepare them.
- With weather being unpredictable and mornings quite chilly, could you send your child in with a coat please.