

Early Years Newsletter



Friday 27th September 2019

King Henry VIII Preparatory School

Academic Year 2019-2020

Issue 3

NURSERY NEWS

'Favourite Stories and Nursery Rhymes'

This week, we have been continuing along our theme of 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'. Some children have brought storybooks into Nursery from home which have reflected our current topic. They have shown great delight in sharing these books with their friends at story time, which is lovely to see.

The children have also been talking about the people who live in their houses and are thoroughly enjoying role-play experiences in the 'Three Bears Cottage'. During play scenarios the children have been looking at and comparing sizes while playing with Daddy Bear, Mummy Bear and Baby Bear. We have had some super imaginative play and they have been cooking porridge, dressing up and feeding the bears and Goldilocks their breakfast. Super!



The children have also enjoyed making masks to use in the role-play cottage and showed fantastic physical and fine motor skills while cutting around their masks. They chose whether they would like Goldilocks or a bear mask and then transformed into their chosen character once the mask was completed! Lots of super imagination was used!



Along the theme of sizes, the children have enjoyed printing different sized bears with the paint and bear sponges. We talked about the order of the bears and they then worked hard to print the bears in order onto their paper. Fantastic work from the children!



The children have also been having super fun with porridge oats, bowls and spoons in the outdoor area. Different sized bowls and spoons have also promoted discussion surrounding full and empty. The texture of the porridge oats has also been a talking point and the children have been feeling the oats between their fingers while scooping and pouring them!



A cooking activity this week has been making 'bear' biscuits where the children melted the chocolate and decorated their biscuit to look like a bear. They had super fun and we had some fantastic bear designs! We hope the biscuits tasted as good as they looked. Yummy!

The children demonstrated good gross motor skills this week as they worked hard to paint patterns, large circles and lines on the paper in the outdoor area. The children also really enjoyed making large marks in the shaving foam. We had lots of super mark making. It was also extremely messy and fun!



Next week we shall be moving onto the story of 'The Three Little Pigs' with further stimulating activities to extend the children's learning. Once again, we welcome items from home relating to this theme.

Dates for your diary!

Thursday 3rd October - Individual and sibling photos



Thursday 17th October - Parents' Evening (more information nearer the time)

Have a lovely weekend,

The Nursery Team

RECEPTION NEWS

Dear Parents

Another week has flown by and we cannot believe it! Your children are getting into the swing of life in Reception and some are even able to tell the class what will be happening next in the day, without looking at the visual timetables that we all have in our classrooms. The predictability of the week is helping all the children to feel happy, safe and secure. Experts have proven that everyone needs to feel like this to be able to learn properly. This is why we spend so much time in the first few weeks focusing on the pastoral aspects of Reception life. Embedding children into their environment, so that they are happy to come to school and know what to expect, sets them up well emotionally and enables them to fly academically later in the year.



We have started a new reward system in Reception called the 'Star of the Week'. It is a way of congratulating and recognising children who have 'shone' that week for whatever reason. It may be for kindness, a special piece of work, a thoughtful act—anything that makes that particular child stand out. They will receive a class

trophy to take home for the weekend (to be returned on Monday), a certificate and a small reward. The children have already spotted the trophies in our rooms and have been eyeing them up with interest! Please tell us how successful you feel it is, when it comes to visit your house!



In Literacy, we are continuing with our RWi sounds. Thank you for all your support with completing the weekly homework. If you feel it is too hard or easy for your child

then please let us know. Some of the letters are very tricky to form, even with a rhyme. Getting your child to draw any letter on a huge scale first, in the air or on the pavement with a wet brush, will help them when it comes to using their pencil.

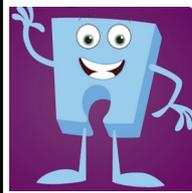


In Numeracy, we have been continuing to work with numbers to 10 or 20, asking children to count out a given number of objects onto its numeral. It really challenges children to work methodically so that they do not double count any objects or miss them out all together. They have been learning that they need to put the things into a line, count them into a bowl, or even group them into tens first (if it is a large number), to ensure they count accurately. There has been lots of problem solving and reasoning skills developed along the way!



Our Topic has been continuing, with special visitors coming into school on Thursday. Dr Sharon and Dr Wason from Willenhall Dental Care kindly took time out of their day to explain all about her work as dentists. The children were

fascinated to learn how to care for their teeth and why it is so important to do so. Thank you, Dr Sharon and Dr Wason!



We have also been thinking about who lives in our house. Some children have had thoughts about what pets they would actually like to have living at home, with one child saying a tiger! Brave!

For next weeks lesson, please could your child bring in a photograph of their family. We will be labelling them in our lessons and thinking about what everyone does to help out. If you have not yet sent in a baby photograph of your child, could you please send that in too! Thank you!

In PSHE this week we have been thinking about how to solve small social problems. What we do when children don't want to share with us, or what happens if people play with our things and then leave them all over the floor. How can we ask them to do the right thing? Yet again we have been amazed at the children's perceptive comments and thoughts. We are also talking about protective behaviours. This encourages child to feel and be safe.



The children have had their first proper swimming lesson this week, with the groups now up and running. This should allow your child to make the best possible progress that they can over the year.

In PE we have been challenging children to move in different ways and to balance. Here is a great picture of a balancing body shape!

Tapestry is up and running now and we hope that you are enjoying seeing the types of things that your child is experiencing at school and the successes they are having too! The children are asking us if the photograph we are taking of them, will end up on Mummy's and Daddy's phone!



October the 10th is 'Hello Yellow' World Mental Health day. Children are welcome to come into school wear-

ing something yellow along with their normal school uniform. It could be a tie or hair slide, a ribbon or socks—anything they have in their wardrobe! Please could they bring in a pound also, for this incredibly important cause. Thank you.

Reminder

We know it can be hard to say goodbye to your child in the morning and leave them to go up to the playground by themselves, but can we please ask you to do just that. It causes staff huge problems when parents are walking onto the playground. They can not ensure the safety of the other children if they are distracted by a parent and it breaks safe guarding regulations. It can also upset other children who are feeling unsettled, seeing another Mummy or Daddy there. Thank you for your understanding!

We wish you all a wonderful weekend! We hope you enjoyed your coffee morning and Open House.

The Reception Team