

# Early Years Newsletter



Friday 11th October 2019

King Henry VIII Preparatory School

Academic Year 2019-2020

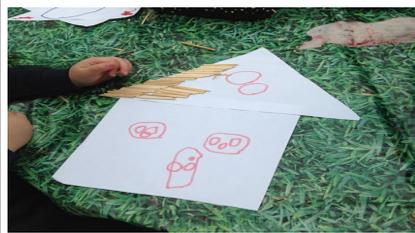
Issue 5

## NURSERY NEWS

### 'Favourite Stories and Nursery Rhymes'

Continuing with our theme of 'The Three Little Pigs', construction has continued this week, with children making houses for the pigs, together with a wide range of structures, such as castles, towers and rockets. They have enjoyed expressing themselves through their fantastic creations and having an amazing time. We have had some wonderful structures built, especially with the large bricks in the outdoor area. Super work!

The children have also been very creative this week while making houses for the pigs. We have talked about shapes as they attached the roof onto their house using glue, then after drawing windows and a door, they chose whether they wanted their house to be made from Straw, sticks or bricks. The brick house was very popular, maybe because the children have learnt that the wolf cannot blow the brick house down and they were talking about it being the strongest house. Super!



The children have once again, spent a lot of time in the outdoor area, with a range of activities, including the water play, the mud kitchen and a new activity with cars, drainpipe and colour cards. The children have enjoyed matching the correct colour spot to the coloured cars, then pushing them into a drainpipe to see how fast they can wizz down before coming out the other end. Then they matched the colours again before repeating the process, laughing and talking about which colour car is the fastest!



## Numeracy

The children have also been learning number formation during their Numeracy session this week. They have been using their fingers to form numerals 1-3 in a tray of sand and glitter and then transforming what they have learnt onto the three little piggy pictures using a pen. The activity was really inviting for them as sand and glitter is always a favourite amongst children, and they learn best when they are keen to participate and are also having fun at the same time. The children all tried so hard. Super work!



## Forest Fun



This session was a huge hit earlier on in the week. The children who attend on this session were introduced to our new amazing fire pit. The safety rules were a priority for discussion and then fresh toast was made for the children to eat. This super session was a fantastic new experience for the children; they were all so excited and loved their freshly buttered toast, many asking for seconds!



Another super Forest Fun session is planned for next week. If your child attends on a Monday afternoon, please could you send in waterproofs together with the child's usual wellies for Forest Fun next Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October. We plan to have some messy fun carving pumpkins in the forest area and would not want the children to ruin their uniform. If you are not able to provide waterproofs, then a spare pair of trousers would be suitable to protect the children's clothing.

## P.E

Please could we remind parents that our PE day is every Thursday, therefore we would appreciate it if parents could provide children with pumps or trainers on this day. We promote independence by encouraging the children to change their footwear for this session. Thank you.



**Harvest**

Next week we shall move onto Harvest time and will also look at the story of 'The Little Red Hen', and how the hen tried to work together with his friends to make bread. It will also be



our Harvest Festival celebration. We would appreciate small Harvest offerings and donations of non-perishable food such as tinned, dried and packaged foods, to support the Salvation Army in the wonderful work they do, feeding the city's homeless people. Please can these items can be sent into school between Monday 14<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October. Thank you!

**Forthcoming Dates to Remember**

**Nursery Parents Evening** - 17<sup>th</sup> October (Please book an appointment via the online booking system)

**Half Term Holiday** - 21<sup>nd</sup> October - 1<sup>st</sup> November 2019

The Nursery Team

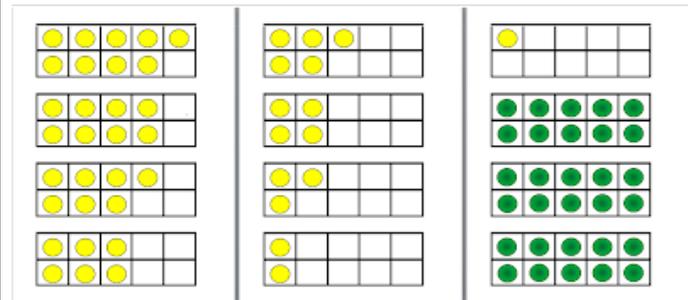
## RECEPTION NEWS

It has been another busy week in Reception and the days seem to pass by faster and faster! With a real chill in the air now, please can we ask again that all children bring their warm school coats in every day as well as their blazers. The blazers are not warm enough at the start of the day and they don't keep their chests warm. Please can coats also be brought in for Forest Fun on Friday, too. Thank you!



In Literacy, we are on the final few single phonemes that we have to teach children. After this, we will be moving on to sh, ch, th blends. Your support with practicing these at home and helping your child to form each letter correctly, is invaluable. It gives children real confidence in their own ability and helps them to work quickly in writing, and read with greater fluency. After these sounds are taught, all the children will be assessed in their phonic knowledge and this will inform us exactly what their next learning step will need to be.

In Numeracy, we have been looking at problem solving through sorting. The children were given the challenge of organising themselves in as many ways as possible. They sorted themselves by hair colour, shoes, hand styles and many other creative ways! We were impressed!



We are also continuing our work on Numbers. In particular, we are introducing 10 frames. These are a fantastic visual representation of an 'amount'. They help children to see the various ways that a number can be arranged and how this can make it look different. It gives them lots of other incidental learning too. They can easily see how much smaller than 10 a number is by looking at the blank spaces in the frame, whether the number is odd or even and how many need to be added to that number to it to make it up to 10, etc. They are such a fantastic tool!



In RE, we have been working with Bertie Owl, talking about people who are important in our lives because they guide us and show us how to behave. We thought about parents, grandparents, older siblings and teachers. We discussed how Christians identified Jesus as their role model and how they used him as a demonstration of how to behave and conduct themselves.

In Topic, we have been thinking about how to keep ourselves healthy by eating well, sleeping the correct amount of hours each night, exercising regularly and importantly, washing our hands well after we have been to the toilet and before we eat our food. We have watched videos on the correct way to wash our hands and using glitter, we have shown how quickly germs can spread if we don't use a tissue when we sneeze or cough!

The children, have been learning Autumn songs in Music ready for our Harvest Festival Assembly which is on Thursday 17th October. Please start thinking about a Harvest offering that you could donate to our chosen charity: The Salvation Army.



We will be asking for donations of food (non perishable) such as tinned, dried and packaged foods which must be in date, to be brought into school between Monday 14th and Thursday 17th October. Thank you for your support.

Thank you to all of you who brought in money for 'Hello Yellow' day, this Thursday. Seeing all the colour was a real visual sign of support for such an incredibly important charity. Mental health touches all of our lives. We loved the ribbons and socks, bands and scarves! A little bit of sunshine on an Autumn day! All the children took part in Mental Health activities, too. They cut out a paper cookie and learnt 'cookie breathing'. Being encouraged to smell their cookie by breathing in and out, very slowly, they understood the first basic steps towards 'controlled breathing'. They had a real cookie afterwards, too, which made them smile no end!

Emails. We sometimes have issues with emails, going straight into our spam boxes and not being seen. Therefore, if you have contacted us and not heard back within 48 hours, please check that we have received it. We do try to scan our spam regularly, however, one may slip through! If you have an important message or question then email is the most reliable way of ensuring that it gets to the member of staff it needs to! Thank you!

### Safety Reminder

At the end of the day, please could you ensure that your children are not using the Forest Fun area at the bottom of the field to play in. We are having litter being left there and fences climbed on and being damaged. It is such a lovely space and we want it to remain as a great learning environment and resource. Children can also get hurt or injured playing there.



Well done, to all the children who are mastering the tricky art of getting changed by themselves. we understand the complication of buttons and turning knotted up clothes the right way around! From next week, we will be giving out certificates to those who can do everything themselves, to celebrate this huge achievement!



There are so many reasons why we feel so very lucky to work with children, their warmth, energy, love of fun and huge sense of humour too. Sometimes, it is the things that they say that are so very heart warming. Miss Bawcutt had the privilege of this conversation during a music lesson – Miss Bawcutt, ‘Who do we know that was born in Bethlehem?’ First child, ‘I was born in August!’ Miss Bawcutt, ‘Really? That is lovely but that is a month, not a place. Does anyone else know?’ Second child, ‘I was born in Coventry!’ Miss Bawcutt, ‘Well done! But does anyone know who was born in Bethlehem?’ Third child, ‘I know I wasn’t born yesterday!’

How perfectly beautiful!

