

# Early Years Newsletter



Friday 31st January 2020 King Henry VIII Preparatory School

Academic Year 2019-2020

Issue 15

## NURSERY NEWS

### Chinese New Year

To celebrate Chinese New Year and 'The Year of the Rat', the Nursery children began this week by creating rat finger puppets. They worked hard to make their super rat design, whether it was a large rat or a small rat. Pom-poms were used for the ears and pipe cleaners for the whiskers. They were fantastic!



Continuing with the children's creativity, they have enjoyed constructing Chinese Dragons using junk modelling. They used a range of different sized containers, boxes and a variety of media, such as pipe cleaners, sparkles and ribbons to produce some amazing colourful dragons!

During Forest Fun and along the theme of Chinese New Year, the children have made Chinese Dragons from natural materials, sticks, and leaves and finished off with brightly coloured ribbons and dragon faces. They had a wonderful experience searching the forest area for items they thought they could use for their dragons and using their own ideas and initiative. Super!

The Chinese Restaurant in the Nursery role-play area has been extremely popular. This has enabled the children to engage in some wonderful play scenarios and has also prompted discussion surrounding their own wonderful restaurant experiences. Our role-play restaurant has involved the children cooking food, dressing up in fantastic cultural clothing and also being the waiter/waitress while taking food orders with the order forms and pencils. Fantastic!



We enjoyed tasting food this week, serving up Chinese noodles and crackers, whilst listening to Chinese music. The noodles were a huge success and the majority of the children cleared their plates, having seconds and even thirds for some! The wonderful kitchen staff also cooked up a festive Chinese New Year lunch for us all on Monday, with spring rolls, noodles, rice and many more culinary delights!



Music Sessions this week have entailed listening to Chinese dragon music and recreating the special music with a variety of musical instruments to bang, shake and tap. The children listened to the sound of the instruments and they were super at making loud and quiet sounds too. Fantastic work Nursery!



Overall, the children have had some great Chinese New Year celebrations and experiences, while also learning about the Chinese Culture. We shall be continuing next week with further experiences and activities for the children.

### Read, Write, Inc.

The children have been looking at the letter 'g' this week. Once again we have had some wonderful items brought in from home. The children love looking at these items with their friends and have a sense of pride talking about their personal items beginning with our letter sound. We shall be continuing next week with the letter 'o'.

### A Plea for Clothing!

Please could any spare clothing be returned if children have borrowed some from Nursery as we are running drastically low on spare joggers. Thank you in advance.

Please could children also bring a spare pair of clothing in their bags daily. We do change children for a variety of reasons such as messy play. This is especially the case during Forest Fun sessions when children very often need to change clothing due to their muddy and very natural messy experiences!

Have a lovely weekend,

The Nursery Team

## RECEPTION NEWS

We hope you've all had a lovely weekend. This week we have continued with the story of Superworm and, oh no, Superworm has disappeared!!! We had to put our brains together to think about how we can help find him again and decided that a missing poster might be our best bet. We thought our posters needed to include a picture, name and a description. The children all practised using their 'Fred fingers' to sound out words for writing and tried very hard to use the correct letter formation. We do hope they are clear enough to help find him!

In Topic we have been looking at the work of Lichtenstein, who produced a lot of pop style art and was inspired by comic strips. The children made some pop art of their own, in the style of Lichtenstein. They painted some comic sound words like 'pop', 'bang' and 'crash' and mounted them onto paper to look like an explosion. Don't they look good?



In Maths, our focus this week has been on weight and capacity. We started off by exploring heavy and light and comparing and sorting objects by these criteria. We then moved on to using the scales to weigh items around the classroom. We looked at how the scales move up and down when items are lighter and heavier and had a go at being human weighing scales too! We talked about what units we measure in and had a go at making some estimates of weight. The teachers overheard some wonderful Mathematical vocabulary in conversations about weight!



For every topic we learn about in Reception, we make sure the provision for independent learning in the classroom provides children with the chance to explore the topic further. This is achieved through activities such as role play, small world play and construction. Take a look at how we have implemented our Superhero topic throughout the Reception area.



## Important Notices

Apologies to parents that ICT club is cancelled next Tuesday 11th February.

A reminder that it is Superhero day next week. Could children please come to school in their Games kit as usual but bring a Superhero change of clothes in.

We are making superhero cities next week so, if you have any items you could send in for junk modelling, please do so on Monday.

Could you make sure you send your child in each Friday with their full Forest fun kit please. Thank you!