

# Early Years Newsletter



Friday 14th February 2020 King Henry VIII Preparatory School

Academic Year 2019-2020

Issue 17

## NURSERY NEWS

Welcome to what has been a very cold and windy week.

The children began this week by experimenting with ice and exploring the effects of freezing and melting, motivated by the fact that there were animals hiding inside the ice. They worked together using tools and equipment to break the ice and set the animals free. During the process there was some super language used, such as 'solid, slippery, wet, cold, and cracked'! The children played and were excited to watch it melt and change into water. Once the ice started to melt, the animals miraculously reappeared from inside which caused great delight amongst the children.



This week we have been looking at the story of 'Walking through the Jungle', where the children have to guess the correct jungle animal from the noises throughout the story. The children have spent the week making some of the jungle animals from the story. They created lions using paper plates, working on improving their physical skills by cutting around the plate to create a mane appearance! They have also made some super crocodiles, elephants and handprint monkeys!



To coincide with our theme of animals, William and Kate, the Nursery Tortoises have been out playing in Nursery. The children love watching them while discussing their colours, patterns and gaining knowledge of their eating habits. We have some wonderful questions from the children each time the tortoises come out to play!

The children all worked hard during some Numeracy activity's this week based on problem solving. They have been sorting objects while thinking about questions such as 'why are you grouping them together like that?' 'Will they all fit?' The children have also been problem solving when 'Gerald Gorilla' took all the golden coins and suggested a solution to how he could share with his jungle friends- Camel, Zebra and Panda! We saw some super problem solving skills from the children!



Please can we remind parents that morning snacks should be in a **small** Tupperware container consisting of a **healthy fruit** based snack. We are noticing snacks are getting bigger- some are in lunch boxes and these take a long time for the children to eat. Also, we politely remind you that the children should be sent in with **water** to drink, not juice. Finally, we would like to remind parents of the importance of slicing grapes in half due to health and safety reasons. Thank you. Alternatively, parents can pay via parent pay for their children to have school fruit.

### Read, Write, Inc.

The children have been looking at the letter 'c' 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 'k'.

### Forthcoming Topic

After half term, Nursery are planning to discuss the important theme of 'People Who Help Us', such as doctors, firefighters, vets, opticians and many more. This will enable the children to learn about safety and services in the community, including the important job they do. This theme will commence on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March. Based on this theme, if any parents would like to come into Nursery to talk to the children regarding the job they do and what their role entails, this would be much appreciated. If you are able to visit next half term to speak to the Nursery children about any aspect of this important topic, or maybe bring in items of interest, then please speak to a member of the Nursery team. Thank you.

Have a lovely weekend,

The Nursery Team

## RECEPTION NEWS

Happy Valentine's Day! We hope you've all had a lovely day so far. Any excuse to show the special people in our lives how much we care for them! You should be receiving a little Valentine's Day surprise this afternoon.



The Early Years team wanted to say a big thank you to all parents who came to our Early Years Fun Morning last weekend. We hope you all had a wonderful time and it was great to see so many of you, so thank you for taking the time to come.

I'm sure you've all heard about our Superhero day on Friday last week. It was a very busy fun filled day, kicked off with a superhero themed Games session, where the children got to show their best superhero moves. Following that, the children composed their own superhero music! They had a selection of instruments to play and had to alter the volume and pace to fit with a range of superhero actions. It was a brilliant day with lots of smiles and we were very impressed with all the superhero outfits the children had, and all the gadgets that went with them!



As mentioned in last week's newsletter, our Superhero story for this week is 'Supertato'. Supertato is always on the lookout for danger and, when the Evil Pea tries to cause mayhem in the supermarket, he saves the day (and all his veggie friends too). We have learnt all about speech bubbles this week and how they are used. We thought of what Supertato may say to the Evil Pea and wrote it in a speech bubble. We then discussed what the veggie friends may say to Supertato for saving them and recorded that in a speech bubble too, remembering our capital letters, full stops and finger spaces. We also thought about whether our sentence could use an exclamation mark.

We have also been busy making our own super-veggies! With the vegetables that the children brought in, by cutting, sticking and assembling them we turned our ordinary vegetables into superheroes! What do you think?



After learning all about 2D shapes last week, we have now moved on to 3D shapes. We initially considered how 3D shapes are different from 2D shapes, then we explored the properties of spheres, cylinders, cubes, cuboids, cones and pyramids. We looked at their faces (what shapes the faces are, how many faces the shape has), vertices and searched for real life objects that are 3D shapes. We thought of so many! Some answers included Earth (sphere), tin of beans (cylinder), dice (cube), cupboard (cuboid), ice cream cone and Egyptian pyramids! Throughout the week we have encouraged and demonstrated good use of Mathematical vocabulary around shape. It's been fantastic hearing children use words like curved, point and flat.



We hope you all have a fantastic weekend and we will see you on Monday for the final week of this half term.

### Important Notices

Please could you make sure your child's morning snack is fruit or fruit based.

On the 5th March it is World Book Day. Children can come in on this day dressed as a favourite character from a book. You're welcome to send the book in too if you wish.

On the 11th March we are hosting a Reception Maths workshop to give you further insight into how we teach Maths and aid you in supporting your child in Maths at home. The session starts at 5pm in the Swallows hall and should last roughly 1 hour.