

# Early Years Newsletter



Friday 13th March 2020 King Henry VIII Preparatory School

Academic Year 2019-2020

Issue 20

## NURSERY NEWS

We have had yet another busy week at Nursery. As Spring is fast approaching, the children began the week creating some blossom trees. They painted the trunks with brushes, before using their fingers to add the blossom onto the branches. We discussed the variations in colour of the blossom and whether children had noticed any trees with blossom on during their time in the outdoor environment. We had some super designs. This also coincided with our letter of the week 'b' for blossom!



Forest fun this week consisted of collecting sticks and twigs to make a fire in the firepit. Safety was explained to the children prior to the activity and the children loved watching the fire that they had contributed to! The children were amazed to see the sticks and twigs turn into charcoal and were so excited that the charcoal could be used to make marks on paper. This activity will be continued next week as the rain ruined the pictures in the early stages.



One of the Maths activity's this week was playing a board game called 'Incey Wincey Spider'. It was interesting to see if they could associate the number of dots on a die with a number. They then moved their spider up the drain-pipe to finish at the top. Some brilliant counting took place while moving their spider up the drain-pipe! The subtle skills of turn taking and following instructions were being worked on too.

## People who help us

This week in Nursery the children have been continuing with the theme and the important topic of 'People who help us'. We have talked about the roles of a variety of people such as teachers, shop assistants, firefighters and doctors. We have also been discussing the range of amazing ways in which they help people and the community. The children are contributing towards the display board within Nursery and are busy making some fantastic structures of police stations, fire stations and hospitals, using junk modelling materials. They are recycling boxes which they will paint and design to make their models. These will then be added to our display.



'People who help us' is a fantastic topic for the children to learn about safety and the important services within the community in which we live, whilst also gaining increased knowledge of the world and expanding a range of skills. Throughout this theme, we are hoping to have special visitors sharing their knowledge with us. We would welcome any parent visitors too. Please see a member of staff if any parents would like to visit and talk to the Nursery children about their job. Any amount of time would be appreciated. Thank you.

## Read, Write, Inc.

The children have been looking at the letter 'b' this week. We have had many super items brought in from home and our sound box has been bursting at the seams this week!! The children feel very proud while talking about the special items they bring in from home and it encourages them to think about the initial letter. Thank you to parents for supporting your children in looking for these items and talking about the specific sounds with them at home. We shall be continuing next week with the letter 'f'.

Have a lovely weekend,

The Nursery Team

## RECEPTION NEWS

We have truly settled back in to the second half of the Spring term now and enjoying the slightly warmer weather! Thank you to those parents who were able to attend the Maths workshop on Wednesday evening. We hope that you found it informative and made you feel supported in how to help your child at home in Maths. If you were unable to attend and would like a copy of the information shared, please do speak to your child's class teacher.

As mentioned last week, our topic for this half term is Fairy Tales and we will be listening to our much loved favourites over the next few weeks, acting them out, ordering the stories and so much more! If you have any tales



that your child would like to share with their class then please name them and bring them in.



In Literacy, we have been ordering the story of the Three Little Pigs and trying to write simple captions to explain

what is happening in the picture, using familiar story language. We have been striving to be as independent as possible when sounding out our words and recording them in to our books. We have also been practising retelling the story verbally, using actions to help us. We drew a story map of the



key parts of the Three Little Pigs story and wrote on it any key words and phrases from the story. Our favourite was "I'll huff and I'll puff and I'll blow your house in!". In and around the classroom, there has been lots of creations linked to the story, including building the houses using various materials and making puppets.



In Maths, we have been learning about money. As this is an introduction to money we have been exploring the different colours, sizes and shapes of the coins and recognising what amounts they represent. We have also set up shop in our classrooms, inviting children to 'purchase' toys using coins to pay with. We have initially been

paying just with 1ps and then, for those that are ready, moved on to making amounts using 2ps, 5ps and 10ps also. We have been focused on looking at the quantity each coin represents, for example 5p is the same as 5 x 1ps or 2p+2p+1p. This is a tricky concept which is taught practically, using real coins. We also use Numicon to show the amount each coin represents.



We hope you have a lovely weekend.

## Important dates

Please remember that the Mother's Day assembly is next Friday.

20th March. Coffee is from 8.30am and it is due to start at 9.15am. Children will not need their Games kit on this day and should come to school wearing their school uniform.

ICT club is cancelled on Tuesday 17th March.

Wear a hat to school day is on Friday 27th March - £1 to be donated towards a Brain Tumour charity