

Early Years Newsletter



Friday 25th September 2020 King Henry VIII Preparatory School

Academic Year 2020-2021

Issue 3

NURSERY NEWS

Nursery has been such a happy and busy place this week and our story has been brilliant! All of the children and staff have loved "Stick Man" - a real Julia Donaldson classic! We kicked off the week with a Forest fun session devoted to looking for sticks so that we could transform them into Stick Man. Monday also saw the Swallows



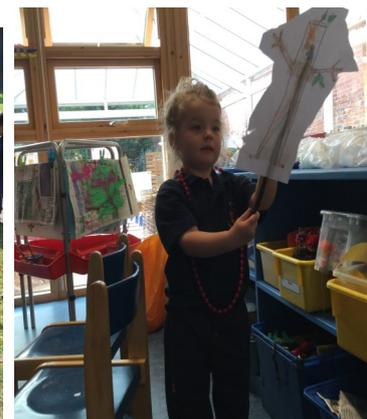
site celebrate 100 years of being a school and so to mark the occasion, the children decorated biscuits and helped to plant daffodil bulbs. I'm sure we will feel very blessed in Spring when the hundreds of beautiful flowers emerge around the school field!

The children have continued to recognise their names by self-registering with their bottles each morning. In Literacy, they had a go at writing their names too. We will start looking at the Read Write Ink letter sounds next week, so we begin with the letter 'm'. We do not use the letter name with the children, but rather we use its sound so the children will come home stretching 'mmmmmmmm' when they say it and using the rhyme, 'down Maisie mountain mountain', as they write the letter.

In Numeracy, the children have been showing Mrs Cooper how high they can count, recognising numerals by sight and ordering the numbers they know. It is important that the children can do all of these things as counting by rote, does not help them to understand the number. They all had a good try and it is lovely that they feel happy and settled enough to start with some more focused activities.

The children have enjoyed building sandcastles in the sand this week, but not using a stick for a flag pole! They have transformed sticks into stick men and using scissors, which is a very tricky skill that requires lots of concentration. They loved making chocolate stick men too, although some were in such a rush to try them that they may not have made it home looking like a stick man!

Ballet started on Wednesday lunchtime and the session went very well, as this year, Mrs Clarke uses one of the Nursery rooms.



Next week, we will be reading 'The Three Little Pigs' and so if there is anything your child would like to show us relating to this classic story, we would love to see it!

Please may we ask that if you have any spare clothes, such as socks, knickers or uniform, please bring them in as our spare stock is running low! Thank you!

Have a fabulous weekend!



RECEPTION NEWS



The children are really getting into the swing of life in Reception and have impressed us this week with their willingness to come to work with the teacher when asked and their increased concentration. Superb! Far more settled, routines are becoming embedded and more and more children know exactly where they need to be and when. They are using visual timetables to understand what each day will be like and adapting to changes in staff due to specialist teaching extremely well. Miss Soan was particularly pleased with the level of participation in Music on Wednesday. Such a positive start!

This week has seen us begin our Topic 'Marvellous Me', with some truly charming baby photos being sent in to help the children think about what it was like to be a baby and what babies need or use. Some had very clear memories of favourite cuddly teddies or toys!

Maths has seen the children consolidate their understanding of number. They have been practising counting out and recognising numerals up to 20. A consistent one-to-one match being the aim to improve accuracy. We have some strong and budding Mathematicians!



In Literacy, we have started our Read, Write Inc lessons, introducing a sound a day to perfect handwriting, blending and segmenting skills. What a productive week, Reception children!

With it being such a special day on Monday with the school's 100th birthday (please see Tapestry posts) it has been a memorable few days all round!



Coats: As the weather is getting cooler and wetter too, please could your child bring in a school coat each day. They will also still need to bring their blazer too. Thank you!

Marking: Due to COVID we are unable to mark children's work with the same detail as previously. We are though dating, stamping and discussing work with your child to give them positive feedback and praise.



Timetable of things to remember each day:

Monday: **PE kit.** Return reading books to school

Tuesday: **School uniform.** Menus go home

Wednesday: **PE/ Games kit.** Completed homework to be posted on Tapestry by parent

Thursday: **School uniform.** Reading books go home

Friday: **Games kit.** Return menus, Homework given out on Tapestry, bring in wellies if they are not already in school

Finally, Happy birthday to Rachael this week! We send you lots of Birthday wishes!



The Reception Team