

Early Years Newsletter



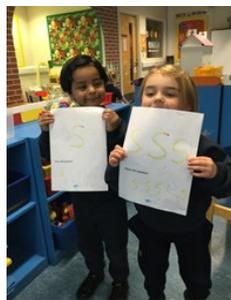
Friday 16th October 2020 King Henry VIII Preparatory School

Academic Year 2020-2021

Issue 6

NURSERY NEWS

Nursery have finished the half term as positively as we started it! Whilst the children, (and staff), are very tired and ready for a break, we have still been busy and productive! This week's story has been Pumpkin Soup and the children have really enjoyed it. The story tells how a cat, a duck and a squirrel make soup together, but when they change roles, it ends in squabbles! It is a good book for talking about how we can all try to do things and how we should always share with our friends.



Literacy

The children have been learning the letter 's' this week with the rhyme, "Slither down the snake". We have been encouraging the children to stretch out the sound of this letter, 'ssssssss', rather than 'suh'. We have threaded some bead snakes, (fine motor development), painted large 's' and decorated them with stars, (Gross and fine motor development), and we have tried to make a rhyming soup. This worked on recognising those words which rhymed.

Numeracy

The shape Monster collection continued this week with the making of Triangle. The children are working on so many skills; cutting, counting sides and corners and then naming the shape. Hopefully, once they have all the basic shapes, they will be able to recollect the names with ease!



Forest Fun - The children began with a hunt for hidden pumpkins all around the field and the Forest Fun area. They then had a go at scooping out the inside of a pumpkin with spoons. This was sticky and messy, but it was good as we got to talk about the seeds inside and the use of the flesh of the pumpkin.



The children also got to taste pumpkin soup for themselves, although, to be honest, it was the bread they dipped in to the soup that was a hit and not the soup itself! Along with shaving foam, sand, ball run, bubble painting and mud kitchen, it really has been a wonderful week!



Have a great and relaxing half term and we will see you after the half term break, 2 weeks from now!

RECEPTION NEWS

As the first half term comes to a close, we wish to congratulate the children on how well they have adapted to their new classes. Children are really starting to understand the need to try hard with their work when they come to an adult. We are seeing noticeable progress with skills in handwriting, segmenting, blending and number already. This is fantastic! The children truly deserve their rest over half term. A time to catch up on sleep and get strong before the final run up to Christmas.



In **Literacy** this week, we have been thinking about our emotions. What different emotions do we feel? How does that emotion look on our face? How does that emotion feel in our body? What can we do to help ourselves, if we feel like this? We thought about what made us happy and we had some great ideas. Food rated quite highly, followed by holidays, and special people in our lives. We tried to record all the sounds that we could hear in our words, whether it was one sound or two or even three.

In **PSHE** last week, we looked at how to cope with anger and we listened to 'Our hands are not for hitting'. This week we thought about the good things we can do with our teeth and mouths and read 'Teeth are not for biting'.



Maths work focused on 'one less' this week, looking at how this is shown on a number line and when using counters. Some children were able to mentally calculate what was one less than a number to 10. SO impressive! We also grouped and sorted objects by their similarities and stated how we had sorted them.

Topic has continued with the theme of 'Our senses', and the children have been cutting out their own Mr Potato Heads, ensuring that they each have the receptors that they need placed carefully on them. Could the children remember what body parts we used for each sense? Moving on from this, we thought about what things are good for us to eat. What can we eat lots of and what do we need to eat in moderation? The children shared their ideas and knowledge with each other to deepen their understanding. Well done!



Notices



Grapes are such a great healthy snack, however for safety reasons, please could they be cut in half length ways to avoid becoming a choking hazard. Thank you.

Christmas- Unfortunately, due to COVID we will not be able to perform our usual Nativity this year, which is disappointing. We are however, looking into different options to ensure that the children have the chance do something, however small, to mark the festivity. Please watch this space.



We will be celebrating **Diwali** in Reception on the 10th of November with a range of different activities and crafts for the children to experience. Your child can wear their own special clothes for the day. Please ensure that they still have a warm coat and sensible shoes though! On the 16th of the month there will be a Diwali themed lunch at school.

Finally, Happy Birthday, Aryahi for yesterday! We hope you had a lovely day!



Have a wonderful and safe half term!

The Reception Team