

Our Nursery Newsletter



Dear Parents / Guardians,

11th October 2019

This week and in the coming weeks we will be focusing on learning Nursery Rhymes as in previous weeks we have noticed there are lots of traditional rhymes the children don't know. Research shows that children who are introduced to rhythm and rhyme at an early age do well as they progress through school especially in Reading. Nursery Rhyme CD's can be picked up quite cheaply in shops like Home Bargains or B & M.

Traditional rhymes include :

- Incey Wincey Spider
- Baa Baa Black Sheep
- Hickory Dickory Dock
- Humpty Dumpty and so on

We have also talked about the seasonal changes at this time of year to encourage the children to think about the world around them. We had noticed lots and lots of birds flying together (the photograph is on the school Twitter site) and we have found out that they are "pink footed geese" who travel from Greenland and Iceland to spend the winter months in Great Britain! A couple of days later we saw more but these were different. They were Canadian geese. Ask your child can they remember how they were different?

In nursery we encourage the children to be as independent as possible especially with putting on and taking off of coats. Please encourage this also at home. Lots of children can already manage on their own which is great so we are now supporting them with fastening zips and buttons but again your support with this in encouraging the children to have a try themselves will really help.

The children have been busy with mark making. The children drew a picture of themselves and wrote their name to go alongside their picture, they are now on display within the Nursery This activity demonstrates the stage your child is up to in their mark making, this is recorded within their Learning Journey Book and we can then monitor the progress of this. It is also noted how your child holds the pencil and finger gym activities can be planned from this so that eventually your child holds the pencil correctly ready for more formal writing activities in Reception next year.

We made our own playdough using flour, salt, oil, hot water and cream of tartar. The children could see for themselves how the ingredients changed once they were mixed together. Using the playdough to roll, squeeze, pinch and so on are movements which strengthen the finger, hand and arm muscles which again all lead on to helping with writing at a later stage.

Within the small world area, staff spend time listening to children and the stories they tell as they play with dinosaurs, cars, rockets and so on. This helps us to assess their speaking and listening skills and also links to reading and their ability to tell a story. Staff also record storytelling they hear the children use in the role play area of the classroom. Progress is then monitored over the year from the child's starting point to when they leave at the end of the year. This evidences also the children who regularly listen to stories. The more language and vocabulary the children listen to and use in their early years has a massive impact as they get older. A story at bedtime is a perfect way to end the day.

Counting is part of our every day provision and we have also been looking at shapes around us and naming them. Specifically we have looked at circles, squares and triangles this week. We have talked about if the shape rolls, how many edges it has and how many corners it has.

A reminder about registering your child for their Reception place next September. If you are having any problems with this please let me know.

Enjoy your weekend and we look forward to seeing you all back in nursery next week.

Nursery Staff