8th November 2019

Dear Parents / Guardians,

Welcome back after the half-term break, the children have settled back into the nursery routines with no problems after their week at home. Many thanks for returning the bags from your Autumn Nature Hunt. The children really enjoyed exploring what had been found. Lots of new vocabulary was introduced. We talked again about **changes** at this time of year as Autumn becomes Winter and what is happening to the leaves on the trees and how some children are starting to wear hats and gloves as the weather is getting colder.

The children are doing really well at learning the school prayer. We sit quietly together with our hand together and eyes closed and say:

Thank you for the world so sweet Thank you for the food we eat Thank you for the birds that sing Thank you God for everything Amen

In Letters and Sounds this week we have focussed on developing the children's awareness of rhythm. Activities include singing songs and action rhymes and encouraging the children to clap in time or move in time with the music. Being able to identify rhyming words is quite difficult and this continues in Reception class next year. Saying nursery rhymes and missing off the last word is a nice activity to do at home and this helps to identify the rhyming words.

Humpty Dumpty sat on the wall

Humpty Dumpty had a great .......

Wall Fall ......can your child think of more rhyming words? Ball call hall and so on, even nonsense words are fine as long as they rhyme ......dall, lall, nall etc.

We made our own playdough and used it in finger gym, (an activity which strengthens the fingers ready for writing). The children roll, squeeze, poke, pat, squash and stretch the dough. If you want to make it at home it will keep in an airtight container for a couple of weeks and is much cheaper than buying it ready made. You need:

- 1 cup of salt
- 2 cups of flour
- 4 tspns of cream of tartar
- 2 tbspns of cooking oil
- 2 cups of boiling water

Simply mix all the ingredients together, it's as simple as that. Food colouring can be added too.

The "Wow" notes you have sent back to school have been added to your child's Learning Journey, thank you for returning them.

Nursery Staff