

Dear Parents / Guardians,

Friday 22nd November 2019

The children continue to do well learning the songs for the Christmas Nativity, "It's a Baby". I know some parents have commented that they have heard their child singing the songs at home. One little boy brought his bible in from home and we found the Christmas Story, picking out the pictures of the characters from our Nativity.

Our Big Book this week was **The Three Billy Goats Gruff**. We discussed the story setting, the characters in the story and were able to retell the story by the end of the week. In the outdoors we built bridges using the block play and took on the role of the **Great Big Billy Goat Gruff**, the **Middle-Sized Billy Goat Gruff** and the **Little Billy Goat Gruff**, not forgetting the **troll** who lived under the bridge. We compared the characters in this story to Goldilocks and discussed how the setting was different. This was on a hillside rather than in a forest.

This story continued our focus on size language as well as positional language.

In phonics this week we have been listening for different sounds, imitating sounds and moving in time to different rhythms. We played a game where the children had to listen carefully to the sound of an instrument hidden behind a screen then play the same instrument in response. This will embed Phase 1 Letters and Sounds and also the area of the EYFS curriculum linked to music.

We have been talking about how different things feel to the touch introducing vocabulary based on texture. We have sent home a bag (like we did for the Autumn hunt) and if you can have a look and see if you can find things which are:

- Bumpy
- Fluffy
- Rough
- Silky
- Sparkly
- Spotted
- Striped

Pop them into the bag and we can then have a sort through in nursery with all the interesting things the children have found and try to guess why it was put into the bag.