

22nd October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Our focus this week has been celebrating Harvest, a time when the farmer collects what he has grown from the fields. Within the RE curriculum we have talked about our favourite foods (and also which foods are healthy for us). We sorted fruit and vegetables naming and tasting fruit that some children had not tried before. In maths we compared the sizes and weight of pumpkins comparing them to other types of fruit but couldn't find anything heavier or bigger than the biggest pumpkin! The children couldn't wait to see what was inside the pumpkin discovering lots of seeds and juice. Picking out the seeds was a good activity to develop the children's fine motor skills. They were very competitive to see who could find the most. We compared each bowl of seeds using the language, "more than" and "fewer than". Making bread was another activity which the children enjoyed. Being able to see the changes from simply mixing a bag of bread flour and water, seeing it "puff up and grow bigger" as the yeast worked, then to being baked in the oven to become bread. The Nursery smelt delicious with the smell of baking bread and the children agreed it tasted delicious too.

This week was a very wet week but it didn't stop the children from being able to explore the natural outdoor environment. We compared the trees around us seeing how some still have all of their green leaves but some now have leaves which have turned brown, red, yellow and orange with lots being found on the ground. Being aware of "change" is something we do focus on in Nursery and the children being aware of the natural world. If you are able to visit the park over the half-term holiday take a bag with you and see what interesting things the children can bring in to show us. "Exploring collections of natural materials, talking about what they can see, using a wide vocabulary," Development Matters 2021. This is a document all schools follow and has recently been updated September 2021. More information can be found by clicking on the link below, or by typing into a search engine "foundation years development matters for parents".

https://www.foundationyears.org.uk/files/2014/08/EYFS_Parents_Guide-amended.pdf

Don't forget each week's "learning" can be viewed on the Nursery Twitter page, @stannestanleyf1.

A reminder school is closed next week for the half-term break.

Take care