

# Our Nursery Newsletter



12th November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Continuing with the theme of “nocturnal” animals, this week we have read a book with the title, “Day and Night Animals”. This book I explained to the children is not a story book but an information book which tells us information about animals you are more likely to see in the day or in the night. Information books tend to have photographs rather than drawings and we also found out about a “contents” page and the “index”. We looked through the book noticing the numbers on each page. It was stressed that unlike a storybook you don’t have to read it from beginning to end but can dip into it anywhere! Ask your child can they tell you the animals which were in the book. During story time the children’s listening skills are improving all the time and lots of vocabulary is introduced by staff which the children may have not heard before. This week I attended a zoom meeting by the authority on schools creating an “Early Years Advocate for Reading in Nursery”. Mrs Beattie will take this role on in our school. Within the meeting it was stated how critical the first 5 years of a child’s life are and the development which occurs, it was also stressed that children only repeat what they hear around them and unless they are introduced to new vocabulary and have the opportunity to use it themselves in context their language will not develop as it should. For example within the book when asking the children what the animals were doing on each page, I suggested the chicken was “pecking” at the grass, later the same day one of the children used this word. Story time is used as not only a time to “listen” and “enjoy” but also a time to develop vocabulary, language and respond to questions. In last week’s book, Bill sat on “ivy” rather than a “branch”. These objects were added to the story tuff spot so the children had the opportunity to use them whilst retelling the story.

In the coming weeks the Health Promotions worker from Stoneycroft Children’s Centre will be spending time in Nursery with a focus on developing children’s communication and language skills.

In Maths the children are doing well in “subitising”, being able to look at a group of objects and realise how many there are without counting. We have only been looking at groups of up to three but the children are doing well. When counting larger groups the focus is on counting slowly, this is what we are working on and starting from “one”. Dice games are a good resource to support this, thinking about Christmas coming!

Many thanks to all who have sent in photographs as requested last week.

Nursery Staff