

5th November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back after the half-term break. The children were full of news of things they had been up to over the break from school. Their speaking and listening skills are improving so much. Staff role model being a good listener and the children are learning about having to wait for someone else to finish speaking before their have their turn.

We have noticed more children are now able to put on their coat themselves without needing any help at all. Being in Nursery is all about becoming more independent and this is lovely to see alongside seeing children helping their friends if they can.

Our book focus has been "Owl Babies" by Martin Waddell. It can be found online at "**https://www.booktrust.org.uk**". Ask your child can they tell you the characters in the story and what happened in the story. The baby owls woke up and their Mummy was gone. Can they remember where she had gone? We used the search engine on the class computer to find out more about owls. Can your child tell you what owls eat? What does "nocturnal" mean? Our tuff spot was transformed into the setting of the story by adding resources from the Owl Babies Story Sack so the children were able to retell the story whilst playing within the provision. Children were heard repeating words and phrases from the story especially from Bill, the youngest owl, who just said throughout, "I want my Mummy".

In the "making" area the children had the opportunity to make an owl using a variety of materials to choose from. It was good to see how different they all were.

We encourage the children to "write" their names on their paintings and we have noticed that some children are writing recognisable letters from their name. (Please don't worry if your child is not yet doing this this is something we will be working on.) We have added name cards alongside their photograph to the painting area for the children to refer to when "writing" their name.

"Notice some print, such as the first letter of their name", is one of our targets taken from the new government guidance "Development Matters" 2021. We will be drawing children's attention to names which begin with the same letter sound and also comparing the lengths of our names, how some "words" are longer/shorter than others.

Thank you for your continued support.