

Nursery Newsletter

18/2/22



Dear Parents

We hope you liked your valentine cards brought home on Monday. Lovely to see children's name writing developing since writing inside their Christmas card. The children used "pipettes" to drip the paint onto their hearts and we continued to use these to support colour mixing whilst supporting the development of fine motor skills.

This week our focus was a **non-fiction** book called "Numbers 1-5". It was explained to the children how this book gave information rather than a story to read (which has a beginning, a middle and an ending). It also had photographs which we don't usually see in **fiction** books. The book gave the opportunity to think about rhyme, e.g. sing, king and fly, high. There was a lot of counting involved in the book and we realised when the objects were in a line how much easier they were to count! Throughout the book the children were encouraged to use the sentence, "I can see". Examples were, "I can see one boy with one apple", "I can see two ears", "I can see three bears", "I can see four wings", "I can see five birds". When looking through books at home model this yourself, "I can see", linking to numbers then ask your child to have a try too. This embeds the idea of "**subitising**" (the ability to instantaneously recognise the number of objects in a small group without the need to count them). The children are really progressing with this skill, an important one which will help in their future maths learning.

Supporting the number focus within the book the children used the iPads to photograph within the Nursery images showing 1, 2 or 3 objects. The range of photographs showed what the children's interests are. Some were very people based of the adults in the room or of their friends. Some were linked to the toys/objects in Nursery and some were more about the environment, e.g. cushions, light switches, windows and so on. This again is something you could try at home, not only supporting the idea of "**subitising**" but also giving the children the opportunity to use technology to record their ideas. We will be printing our pictures out and making them into our own Nursery Number Book. If your child does have a try at this at home, please send them through "EvidenceMe" and they can also be added to our Number Book. We used "siri" the virtual assistant on the iPad to tell us what the difference is between a cheetah and a leopard (which were in our book). We knew they both had spots but didn't know why they had different names when we thought they looked the same! Ask your child if they can remember what "siri" told us!

Our new children have settled in well as they finish their first half term in Nursery. Amazing to see how quickly they are becoming independent and following the routines of the Nursery modelled by our older children. Nursery rhymes which are sung daily are being learnt and it's nice to see so many already know the rhymes we sing. Nursery rhymes are an important part of our curriculum because they help develop an ear for language. Both rhyme and rhythm help children hear the sounds and syllables in words which help when "reading" at a later stage. Children who are "good readers" in Reception and later years all have been exposed to nursery rhymes and books from an early age. There are many times

within our day we hear children singing whilst they are playing, hopefully you also hear this at home. There are many Nursery Rhymes available on YouTube and also on "EducationCity" which you have the log in details for. Within the "EYFS" section, for "Maths" and "English", click on "videos" and there are Nursery Rhymes there to listen to.

A reminder school closes on Friday 18th February for the half-term break and we return to school on Monday 28th February.

Take care and thanks your continued support,
Mrs Riley