

# Nursery Newsletter

28/1/22



Dear Parents

Please return your child's Book Bag to Nursery daily so we can change the book for you to share at home with your child. If you have lost your Book Bag please let a member of staff know and we can replace it. Creating regular "reading" habits at a young age is so important and hopefully will create readers for life. Most children do bring their bag each day which is great. Many studies state that children who develop a "love" of reading do well not only in school but also as they go through life and the jobs they do.

Our Big Book focus this week was "This is the Bear" by Helen Craig. If you would like to listen to the book at home with your child it can be found on YouTube. During reading we noticed the rhyming words (which is something we have been focusing on this week) and talked about the characters in this story compared to the Goldilocks story. As previously mentioned, over the next month 2 members of our EYFS team are receiving training in "ROAR Looking after Mental Health". This is an intervention which in the past has been predominantly focused at Key Stage 1 and older children. However especially due to the ongoing covid pandemic and the stresses this has brought to all families at different levels, it is realised that the earlier support is put in place the more impact it will have. A lot of talk during the training has been about the children being able to recognise how they are feeling and being able to label their emotions. This is particularly true at this time of year with our new starters, some of whom are still settling in to the routines of Nursery and being away from Mum and also for our older children whose routine has been altered slightly. Whilst reading the focus book we noticed the faces of the characters in the story and how it looked different when they were feeling cross, sad, happy and so on. Looking at the boy's eyebrows and mouth were key indicators and also his body language, arms folded, hands on hips etc. We talked about how their feelings changed throughout the story and the reasons why. The children are doing really well recognising their name and also the initial letter of their name as well as those of their friends too which is great considering we have only just started our second term in Nursery. Continuing to develop phonological awareness we are working on syllables in words, counting and clapping syllables in our names. e.g. Ben has one syllable, Lucy (Lu-cy) has two syllables, Jessica (Jess-i-ca) has three syllables, Amelia (A-me-li-a) has 4 syllables. Phonological awareness is the ability to tune in to the spoken word recognising different speech sounds. For example I might say, "mmmmmmmm" and children have to guess whose name I am thinking of, "mmmmmmMatthew" or "c c c c c c Connie". Formal phonics using the "Read Write Inc" scheme which the rest of the school follows will begin in the summer term.

Many thanks to those who donated wind up toys which the children have enjoyed exploring and investigating alongside our new gear/cog kits we have recently bought. This activity not also supported the embedding of maths vocabulary but most importantly vocabulary used within "The Three Characteristics of Effective Teaching and Learning, Playing and Exploring, Active learning and Creating and Thinking Critically". Hearing children say, "I wonder what

will happen if .....", or "Let's try putting this here ....." shows they are really thinking about what they are doing and are building up good attitudes to learning.

Enjoy the rest of your week,

Take care

Mrs Riley