

Dear Parents and Carers

Next week is World Book Day (Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March). Children can bring to Nursery their favourite book from home or come to Nursery dressed as their favourite book character if they wish. I realise "the cost of living" crisis at the moment is affecting many of our families so please do not worry too much about this, your child can come to Nursery dressed in their clothes from home as opposed to Nursery uniform on this day, as many stories have girls and boys as characters. Please be aware that if they will be getting dressed up that the children still need to be independent going to the toilet.

The children enjoyed making pancakes as we celebrated Pancake Day on Tuesday. Within the "**Understanding the World**" area of our curriculum, this activity helps to develop various skills. "**Use all their senses in hands-on exploration of natural materials. Explore collections of materials with similar and/or different properties. Talk about what they see, using a wide vocabulary.**" We noticed how the ingredients changed as they were mixed together and again changed when it was being cooked and once it was cooked. Have a look on our class Twitter page for photographs of the children. The children really enjoyed the activity especially when it came to eating them. This activity also helped to develop fine motor skills when using the cutlery. Within the "**Physical Development**" area, "**Use small motor skills to do things independently. Show an increasing desire to be independent, such as wanting to feed themselves. Start eating independently and learning how to use a knife and fork**" and also to "**Develop manipulation and control.**"

Welcome back to Mrs Beattie who returned to Nursery this week. We have missed her so much and we are so happy she is back with us. She commented straight away how much the children have grown since she last saw them and it was lovely for her to meet our new children who have started recently. A big thank you to Mrs Fitzpatrick for all of her help and support during Mrs Beattie's absence.

Our Big Book this week was a non-fiction book based on the numbers 1-5. The children were shown how non-fiction books have photographs and you can dip into them anywhere you like rather than having to read from the beginning to the end! Within "**Literacy**", to be able to "**Ask questions about the book. Make comments and share their own ideas**". Story time is often a quiet time for listening but also a "chatting" time as the children are encouraged to focus on what they can see and respond with their ideas and thoughts.

Many thanks for your continued and constant support,

Warmest wishes,

*Mrs Riley*

*Nursery Teacher*

*EYFS Lead*