

Nursery Newsletter

14/06/2023



Dear Parents

The children have begun to “sign in” each morning as they enter Nursery. For those children who are already able to write their name there is a focus on forming each letter correctly.

This week our big book focus was Handa’s Surprise by Eileen Browne.

This story can be found on the following link https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XyIV_xYi0as on YouTube. This is a lovely book to share with the children as it has so many teaching points as well as being a good story. Vocabulary includes types of fruit some of which the children are not familiar with like guava, passion fruit and mango. Animals included an antelope and an ostrich which again some children did not recognise and were unable to name. We also compared Handa's journey to visit her friend, Akeyo to our journey when we visit our friends. The story is set in a village in south-west Kenya, we noticed where Handa lives, there were no busy roads or lots of houses and shops as we have in Old Swan. **Knowing that there are different countries in the world and talking about the differences** is part of our curriculum. We compared the music we may hear on the radio to typical African music that Handa may listen to. **Responding to what they have heard, expressing their thoughts and feelings** based around music and songs from different cultures is also a part of the EYFS curriculum. There were 7 different types of fruit in Handa’s basket and 7 animals (who took the fruit), I wonder if your child can name them for you?

A group of children visited Asda with a shopping list we had written together to buy the fruit which was in the story. Being able to hear the beginning sounds in words and to be able to write them is a major focus (as we are in the final half-term in Nursery for the older children). Pronouncing the sounds carefully at the beginning of the word then referring the children to the letter linked within the Read Write Inc scheme helps to develop this learning, 0-0-0-orange, Mmmango (mmmmountain), p-p-p-pineapple (ppppirate), p-p-p-passionfruit, b-b-b-banana (bbboot), g-g-g-guava (ggggirl), a-a-a-avacado (aaaapple).

We compared the fruit using vocabulary based around size, weight, colour, texture, taste and smell. Guava was the only fruit we were unable to try as we had been unable to find any in the shops. If you do have a specialist supermarket you are aware of we would be grateful if you could buy a guava and we will reimburse. Thanks.

With the weather being so hot this week this was a good week to eat plenty of fruit. We talked with the children about fruit being a really healthy snack and so good for us especially when the temperature is high and the fruit is cold. Extra water has been available, less time spent outdoors, and lights have been switched off within the nursery to try to keep the room as cool as we can. Children have been encouraged to have no jumper or cardigan on.

Outdoors the children helped staff to create shaded spaces using a variety of resources and the children were discouraged from high energy activities.

In maths we revised 2-d shape, recalling what makes a circle a circle, a triangle a triangle and rectangles including squares and oblongs. We talked about the number of edges or sides the shape has, if it has curved or straight edges and the number of pointy corners.

3-d shapes included cubes, cuboids and cylinders and we looked at the shapes of the “faces” on each shape, i.e. a cube has 6 square faces all of which are square shaped, a cuboid as 6 faces, some of which are oblong and some can be square.

Maybe have a look around your home with your child and have a shape hunt!

Enjoy the rest of your week,

Warmest wishes,

Mrs Riley

Nursery Teacher

EYFS Lead