

Early Years Newsletter



Friday 20th April 2018

King Henry VIII Preparatory School

Academic Year 2017-2018

Issue 23

NURSERY NEWS

Welcome back to our Summer Term. We hope you all had a fantastic Easter break. We have another exciting and fun-packed term ahead of us!



We would like to begin by saying how lovely it has been to arrive back at Nursery to find beautiful spring flowers have finally grown from the bulbs which the children planted last November. The children have been admiring them and smelling the beautiful aroma. They obviously did a wonderful job looking after them throughout the winter and watering them which has resulted in some magnificent flowers to brighten up the outdoor environment. This has also enabled the children to learn about changes over time and throughout the different seasons!



The children have been very enthusiastic whilst discussing their Easter holiday news and have enjoyed sharing this with their friends during group times. Thank you to parents for sending in the holiday activity sheets, it has been super sharing special news with the children and reading about their great adventures. We have even had a new baby for one of our families during the holidays. Fantastic!

The Gingerbread Man

This term we are beginning to look at the favourite story of the Gingerbread Man, with lots of fun and exciting activities planned. The children began this week by designing their own special Gingerbread Man using a variety of materials and resources, also decorating it with buttons, choosing how many he would need to fasten his clothes!!



We have also been reading the story and re-enacting it using masks and small world toys, including a range of animals and materials for the grass and the river which the Gingerbread Man tries to cross.

St George's Day



Next Monday 23rd April is St George's Day and children are invited to dress in red and white colours and contribute a charitable donation of £1. Nursery will also be participating in some fantastic St George's Day activities.

Parents' Evening

This is being held on Tuesday 24th April. If you have not already done so, please book an appointment to see your child's key person via the online booking system before Monday evening. Mrs Duckers will also be available should parents wish to speak with her too. Please speak to a member of the Nursery team if this date is not convenient and we shall be happy to arrange an alternative meeting. Thank you.

Nursery Summer Trip

You should have all received a letter regarding our trip to Umberslade Farm. Please could payment be made and all reply slips be returned to Nursery by 8th May. We have already had many parents offering to come along as a parent helper which has been fantastic. Please speak to a member of staff if you are interested in accompanying us. Due to the coach seating capacity we are only able to take a certain number of parents and we will let parents know as soon as possible. If there are any questions regarding any aspect of the trip then please feel free to speak to a member of the Nursery Team. Thank you!

We hope you enjoy the sunshine and have a lovely weekend!

RECEPTION NEWS

What a wonderful week we have had in Reception! We welcomed the children back and the sun came out giving us warm days to really enjoy all areas of the learning environment.



The children wasted no time, settling very quickly and confidently playing indoors and outdoors with their friends. As a staff team, we really love the Summer Term as the children demonstrate confidence and maturity and the journey they have made since September is so visible. We now embark on the process of getting your adorable little children ready for the transition in to Year 1. Snack time, which has mostly been in the class room due to the cold weather, will now take place on the playground. The children will be responsible for eating their snack outside and for some this will be a tough decision as it will mean they cannot play until they have eaten it. We will of course be encouraging them to do this and we will give them plenty of reminders to drink lots of water. If you could reiterate at home the importance of drinking water throughout the day, we would appreciate it.



The children will be covering Traditional Tales this half term, which includes favourites like Little Red Riding Hood, Billy Goats Gruff and The Three Little Pigs. If you have any of these tales at home, a bedtime story is always a special time to read to your child and for them to hear an adult read to them is so beneficial as this is how they learn to use expression and intonation. This is how they learn to love a good story and get lost in their imagination!

"Neural research shows that when parents and caregivers interact verbally with children, such as reading to them kids learn a great deal more than we ever thought possible," says G. Reid Lyon, Ph.D



We kicked things off with The Three Little Pigs and the children have been exploring the new Role Play Areas in each of the classrooms... They can visit Goldilocks and the Three Bears cottage for porridge, they can plant seeds like Jack at the foot of a giant beanstalk and they

can build houses for the three pigs out of straw, twigs or bricks in the Three Pigs Construction site. They have been excited and keen to have a go at everything!

These boys were really pleased with their brick houses and they stood up to pressure from the wolf!!



In RE we read the story The Boy Who Cried Wolf and for some, they knew the story very well. This opened up so many wonderful conversations about not telling lies and making sure people know when you are playing a trick on them.

In Maths we have been accurately counting objects, reminding the children that it is important to only count something once. We have explored how to make sure we do this by lining things up or ordering them in groups of 10 for example. We have also been giving the children two numbers that are not consecutive, eg. 4 and 9. They have been stating the numbers that come in between.

REMINDERS: Next Monday, 23rd April, we are inviting children to wear red and white to school for St George's Day. A contribution of £1 can be given and will go towards our Feed the Hungry campaign.

Next Tuesday, 24th April, is Parent's Evening and your slot can be booked online through the booking system. You will get a 10 minute slot and teachers try hard to stick to times so as not to hold things up. Please come prepared with any questions you may have. Please note that there will be **NO Dotty Club** or **ICT Club** on this day.

Tuesday 1st May is Phonics Evening which we will tell you more about in the next newsletter. Please note that there will be **NO Dotty Club** or **ICT Club** on this day.

Have a lovely weekend!