

Early Years Newsletter



Friday 27th April 2018

King Henry VIII Preparatory School

Academic Year 2017-2018

Issue 24

NURSERY NEWS



We began this week at Nursery with a wonderful red and white theme where the children and teachers dressed up in red and white colours. Nursery also participated in a range of fantastic activities including making a St George's Day flag, designing their own dragon while talking about colours and patterns, and also participating in a range of creative activities along the theme of red and white.



The children have also been exploring and describing textures this week using a range of resources such as cotton wool, sandpaper, feathers and sticks. They enjoyed touching and describing the feel of the materials, with some describing them as 'bumpy, smooth, scratchy, fluffy, stripy and even boppy!'



Favourite Stories

We have been continuing to look at the story of 'The Gingerbread Man' which the children are thoroughly enjoying. They enjoyed our cooking activity this week and have been very busy making gingerbread men. The children have weighed ingredients, mixed and rolled the dough and finally cut out some perfect gingerbread men to take home. The Nursery kitchen has had a lovely aroma of ginger all week. Thankfully, our gingerbread men did not run away from us and the children were able to take them home to eat!



The children have also made some amazing gingerbread men with the play dough and have been fantastic at moulding the dough into all sorts of shapes and sizes to create their figures!



We have also linked mathematical activities in with the theme of 'The Gingerbread Man' and the children have been exploring number concepts during numeracy activities. Eg, if one of the gingerbread men runs away, how many are left? Also identifying numbers and matching them to the amount of gingerbread men.

PE Sessions

This term, Nursery children will require their full white kit in school for PE sessions, together with pumps or trainers. This is also to help them prepare for transition to Reception in September and begin to get changed into their full kit. Therefore all children will require their kit on a Thursday and if your child attends on a Tuesday afternoon they will also require their full white kit. As this is an afternoon session, the children will not have time to change after PE so will return home in their kit on a Tuesday. Any children attending aftercare will be changed back into their uniform. Thank you.

As the summer approaches and the warmer weather is upon us please could parents apply an all day sun protector to children prior to arriving at Nursery. All children should also have a sun hat. Sun protector can be sent to Nursery for children to re-apply later in the day if needed. All children should also have a water bottle in school as we do promote the importance of drinking water throughout the day, especially during the warmer weather. Can we also remind parents that everything should be named to ensure items do not get lost. During the cooler days, if the weather is a little cool and unsettled then Nursery children will still require a coat on these days. Thank you.



We hope you all have a lovely weekend.

The Nursery Team

RECEPTION NEWS

Hello! Another week has flown by and with very mixed weather but it has not interfered with the fantastic learning that has been going on. It was lovely to see so many of you at Parent's Evening and we hope you found the evening encouraging and useful. Thanks for coming along.

This week the children have continued looking at The Three Little Pigs and there have been so many good things to tell you about. I'm sure your little ones were excited to show you their Little Pig cupcakes and maybe even let you have a nibble? We can assure you that all hands were washed before making them!



The children also produced their own Story Maps in English, a new skill and one which they thoroughly enjoyed. Two children kept going until the last minute of the school day as they were so engrossed in the task! A story map involves pictures and key words. In this case the children re told the story of the Three Little Pigs chronologically, but as they move through the years, they can develop this skill to help them arrange their ideas into a beginning, middle and end for their own creative writing.



In Maths we have been subtracting using many different techniques. Practically, they have been taking objects away from a group and on paper they have been crossing out items and counting the remaining amount. They have looked at forming their own number sentences, for example; $10 - 6 = 4$ has been done like this: 0000000000. The children have coped well with this visual way of solving subtraction problems.



Last week's Forest Fun was a scorcher and so we found a beautiful shady part of the Memorial Park and gave the children the option of building a house for The Three Little Pigs or enjoying some Traditional Tales read by staff. It was a lovely afternoon...



Reminders: Tuesday 1st May is Phonics Evening, starting at 5pm. Mrs Parkes is leading this informal session to help parents understand how we teach your children Phonics. As they move into Year 1 lots of learning is already embedded and the children are doing so well and we want this to continue as they move up into Year 1. Please join us if you wish to know more.

Can we ask that your child brings in an empty, old shoe box with their name on it please? We are hoping to make Story boxes with them next week and we would really appreciate the boxes by Monday 30th April. Many thanks.

We hope you have a lovely weekend.