

Early Years Newsletter



Friday 2nd February 2018

King Henry VIII Preparatory School

Academic Year 2017-2018

Issue 16

NURSERY NEWS

Favourite Stories

We have been looking at the story of 'Dear Polar Bear...' which is a lovely book involving a polar bear writing letters to his friends! His home is an igloo made from ice and Nursery have been experimenting and exploring the effects of freezing and melting. The children began the week by making their own ice, developing an understanding of the process and the changes that occur. They worked together to fill bowls with water, hiding animals inside! They then placed them into the freezer. There was great excitement the next day when the bowls of water became blocks of ice!



The children played with the ice in the outdoor area whilst watching it melt and turn back to water. We had some fantastic comments from the children such as "it has turned to ice, it is slippery, the polar bears have stuck!" Once the ice started to melt the polar bears then miraculously reappeared from inside which caused great delight amongst the children!

The Nursery role-play area has been transformed into a post office where the children have been writing letters to the polar bear and making use of their fantastic Literacy skills! 'Postman Penguin', a character from the story has been collecting their letters and delivering them!



The children have also been enjoying some messy play whilst mark-making with the shaving foam and cornflour, getting extremely messy in the process! This was enjoyed by all, and is fantastic in helping to promote those important early Literacy skills in young children.



We shall be continuing with the fantastic story of 'Dear Polar Bear...' next week before moving onto Chinese New Year during the week of 12th February. This will be another fun packed week with the children learning about the Chinese culture and participating in a range of activities, ending with a special 'red day' on Friday 16th February. Nursery children are welcome to dress in red on this day. Thank you to parents who have offered to contribute to this special week of Chinese celebrations.

Read, Write, Inc.

The children have been looking at the letters 'l' and 'h' this week. Once again we have had some wonderful items brought in from home and the children have enjoyed discussing and sorting these items into the correct sound boxes. We shall be continuing next week with the letters 'r' and 'j', if children have any items at home beginning with these letters they are welcome to bring them in to share with us.

RECEPTION NEWS

We have had a very exciting day dressed as Superheroes today! With a huge thank you to all of those able to come in and support your child building their model cities to play with in our 'small world' areas. Much fun was had by all! Pictures to follow in next weeks Newsletter!



We all have a hero in our heart.

The children have been more appreciative of their 'daily bread' after they helped the chef to make the loaves that they eat each day, last Thursday. After mixing, stirring, kneading and knocking the air out twice, it was quite a workout! The result was very delicious though and much enjoyed with afternoon milk.



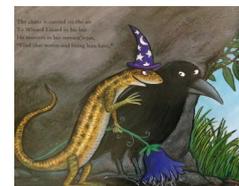
This week

Worms, worms are everywhere this week! We have been digging for worms, learning facts about worms, revisiting our Superworm story and have even chased black birds off the playground, in case they are the evil Servant Crow coming to capture Superworm!



Fun Facts About Earthworms:

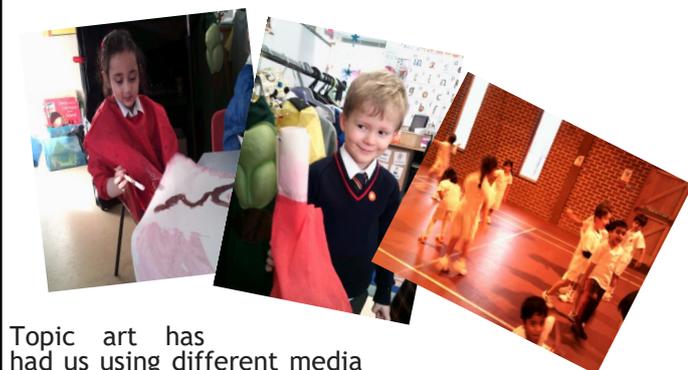
1. Earthworms breathe through their skins
2. Worms that come out at night are called night creatures
3. There are over 8,000 different types of earthworms
4. Earthworms have no bones or skeletons
5. The largest worm ever found was over 22ft long



In Literacy, we have been working with different sorts of texts, moving on from the fictional work of Superworm, to factual information posters and videos, instructing us about worms and their habitats. We have learnt more about the world around us, being introduced to language like 'burrows' and 'muscles' and even finding out how worms breathe! See if we can wow you with our knowledge! The rain has been our friend too as it has brought out lots of worms for us to look at on the Astro turf!

In Numeracy, Super Bear has been back to help us learn about 'prepositions', checking our knowledge of 'under, over, in-between, next to' etc. What a hero!

We have also been learning how to use programmable toys. The Beebots have been cementing our understanding of direction and giving instructions. It has been great fun making them move forwards, backwards and turn corners.



Topic art has had us using different media to create our own Superworms. We painted worms and made 3D ones by rolling paper and embellishing it with crepe paper capes and googly eyes. In PE we are pretending to be 'Magical Toys' this half term, focusing on moving in different ways and responding to music through dance.

News

Thank you for your understanding regarding the issues with the swimming pool boiler. Swimming will be back to normal next Wednesday.

Reminders

Don't forget your Family Friday allocated slot to share your child's Learning Journal. We have had lots of positive feedback which we have really appreciated. Thank you!

Unfortunately, we still have children who do not have a full Forest fun kit and so they are getting their school uniforms and shoes dirty. Please could your child have a warm waterproof coat (or their school one will be worn instead) waterproof trousers and wellies. Thank you!

Dates

Our Mother's Day Assembly is getting closer! Watch this space!

We hope you have a 'Superhero' of a weekend!

Warm regards,

The Reception Team