

Early Years Newsletter



Friday 22nd September 2017

King Henry VIII Preparatory School

Academic Year 2017-2018

Issue 2

NURSERY NEWS

'Favourite Stories and Nursery Rhymes'



The children have been very busy this week in Nursery learning about 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'. They have enjoyed a variety of fun and exciting activities such as making bears out of play dough, using their imagination to recite the story with small world toys and the Goldilocks story box, also making porridge to eat whilst choosing whether to add honey to their bowl "Yummy"!



The children have also enjoyed listening to different variations of the story and during our Music session they have enjoyed listening to the 'teddy bear rap', they have also explored high, medium and low voices. We shall continue with this story next week before moving onto another exciting story.

Forest Fun

Our Forest Fun session has been fantastic, with the children exploring and investigating bear footprints! Counting the footprints and deciding which animal could have made such large prints. Hopefully the prints will lead the way to finding the bear!



As the cold weather approaches, please could all children come to Nursery wearing a coat, as we do go outside during the day. We are currently promoting independence and helping the children find the correct coat on their peg and encouraging them to hang it back up once we have come inside. It may help if parents could tie a piece of ribbon onto the standard coat hook which is inside the collar of all school coats. This would enable your child to hang their coat onto the peg and make it easier for them by using their ribbon. This may also help children to recognise which coat is theirs, as they will get to know which ribbon they have. Thank you in anticipation for your support with this.

We have introduced 'snack mats' which the children have begun to use during morning snack time.

The children have made these themselves and will help to promote their own individuality and independence, while also helping with name recognition and literacy skills at snack times.

Thank you to parents for sending in their own special family photos for the children to share in Nursery. It has been a delight sharing these during our group times and also becoming familiar with children's extended family members. We have made a wonderful display of these photos in Nursery which the children are enjoying admiring and talking about with their friends, while also pointing out which are their special photos!

Please could we remind parents to name everything; snack boxes, water bottles and all clothing including shoes and wellington boots. This helps staff enormously throughout the day and also ensures if something is lost we can make sure it finds its way to the right child!

We would like to say once again how beautifully the children have settled into Nursery. They are all very happy and are forming new friendships, which is lovely to see.

RECEPTION NEWS

New friends

We have some exciting news! The children have had some new friends join them in Reception. Their names are Woody (RL), Chester (RF), Oakley (RC) and Willow (RWP). They have been shown around the school and introduced to their classmates. They were so excited to find out that they would be spending their weekends with children from their class and their families. The bears will be taking Learning Journals home with them for you update with what the bears have been up to. We are looking forward to seeing what these bears get up to!



Phonics

This week the children have started their phonics programme to aid them with their reading, spelling and writing. They have been introduced to Fred the Frog, a puppet who cannot read words as we can. He can only say words in sounds eg. d-o-g, sh-o-p, c-l-a-p. He helps the children with their reading and spelling by using 'Fred talk'. To help your child at home have some fun using 'Fred talk' eg. time for b-e-d, pick up your f-or-k. Also read regularly, both school books and books from home or the library. Talk about the stories, make predictions and explain meanings of new words. Below is a link you may find helpful on pronunciation of the sounds we teach.

<http://www.ruthmiskin.com/en/resources/sound-pronunciation-guide/>



Words to learn at home and homework books

You will notice in the back of your child's reading record that there is an envelope with some words printed on card. These are words that are tricky to read because they cannot be sounded out in the usual way. They need to be read quickly on sight. With your child, look for the parts of each word that can be sounded out normally and then identify the tricky bits. We will send these words in stages, as to what we feel is appropriate to your child's reading level.

In your child's book bag you will find a homework book. This book will be sent home every Friday and has the sounds we have been learning this week inside for children to practise writing with you over the weekend. Encourage your child to spot these letters in their environment and play games using their newly learnt sounds such as 'I spy'. Could you please send homework books back into school on Monday morning.

Reminders

If you have not done already please label all items of PE, Games and Swimming kit, including socks and pumps. In doing this, if items get muddled with another child's belongings, they are more likely to be returned to the rightful owner!



Also could you please send your child in every day with a morning snack and a water bottle. The morning snack should be fruit or fruit based.

Finally could we ask that all children have a book bag that they bring into school with them every day. Please can this be separate from their snack bag.