

Early Years Newsletter



Friday 20th October 2017

King Henry VIII Preparatory School

Academic Year 2017-2018

Issue 6

NURSERY NEWS

'Favourite Stories and Nursery Rhymes'



The children have been enjoying our current story of 'The little Red Hen'. We have talked about kindness and sharing, as that is also a theme throughout this fantastic story! The children have been discussing how bread is made and the ingredients needed,

while also talking about helping each other, as Little Red Hen could not find anybody to help her make the bread. There has also been a lovely aroma of fresh bread throughout Nursery as the children have been making bread rolls during their cooking session this week. They enjoyed mixing, kneading and rolling the bread dough before watching it rise, and cook it in the oven.



There has also been a Bakery in the role-play area this week where the children have enjoyed selling bread, writing orders and using the tills to pay for the bread! There has been some wonderful imagination and language used and the children have also used their imaginative skills to bake bread and make pizzas and cakes. Lovely!



The children have also been learning about and developing an understanding of changes over time throughout the seasons, investigating and exploring the fantastic Autumn Colours and the texture of natural items. They have also been exploring and learning about sounds and textures, listening to the crinkling and rustling of the leaves, feeling the smoothness of apples and the spikiness of pine cones! The children also looked closely at the Autumnal and natural materials through the magnifying glasses.



The children have also been exploring using paint and a variety of leaves and pine cones which the children had previously collected. They made fantastic patterns and prints and loved swishing the paint with the leaves and looking at the huge variety of patterns they could make.

Our Forest Fun session has been an enjoyable and messy one this week. The children had a fantastic time carving pumpkins and making faces and shapes in them. They used their physical skills and a range of tools to scoop out the inside while exploring the texture and also the aroma of the pumpkins. Immediately after this session, one little boy said to a teacher, "Thank you, I really enjoyed that"! This was so lovely to hear!



Harvest

All the children joined together for their Harvest celebrations in the hall this week, singing a variety of Harvest songs, including the scarecrow song which has been a firm favourite amongst the Nursery children. We would like to say a huge thank you to all parents for contributing donations of food during this Harvest week.

Please can we ask once again, if parents have not already done so, to tie a coloured ribbon through the hanging loop on your child's coat. It has made a huge difference to the children's independence when hanging their coat on their peg, and also makes it easier for them to identify their own coat. Thank you. Also, please could we once again remind parents to name everything; snack boxes, water bottles and all clothing including shoes, waterproofs 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!

Holiday Activity Sheets

We hope all children and parents enjoy half term, whether they are attending our holiday club or have other exciting activities planned. We value parental involvement, therefore you and your children are welcome to contribute to the holiday activity sheet which has been sent home this week, if you wish. This can then be included in children's Learning Journals on their return to Nursery after half term. This holiday information can be in the form of photos, drawings or even items of interest such as cinema tickets. It is always lovely to hear about the super activities which children participate in during the school holidays and also provides a lovely link between home and Nursery! Many thanks for your continued support and we hope you all have a lovely holiday.

Read, Write, Inc.

On return to Nursery after half term we shall begin to look more closely at specific letters with the children, expanding on literacy skills which we have been introducing since September. During the first week back we shall be looking at the letters 'm' and 'a'. If children have any items at home beginning with these letters they are welcome to bring them in to share at group time.

RECEPTION NEWS

Happy Diwali!

This week we celebrated Diwali! On Thursday we had a whole day where we fully immersed ourselves in many of the different Diwali activities.

This included... making rangoli patterns using coloured rice, designing Mehndi, making coconut barfi, doing a special Diwali dance, making salt dough Diva lamps and cleaning the classroom in preparation!



Reminders

-For those of you who wish to attend, the school fireworks display is on tomorrow (Saturday 21st) on the Hales/Senior school field. Doors open at 6pm.

-Could we remind you that individual and sibling photos take place on the first Wednesday after half term - 8th November.

A little message from all of the teachers

We are so proud of how well all the children have settled into their Reception year at King Henry's. We have had a busy, fun and eventful 6 weeks and we thank all the parents for your support this term. The children have been building friendships, learning the routines of the classroom and working ever so hard. Most importantly, they are happy to be here.



We hope that you have a lovely, restful half term break and we look forward to seeing the children's smiley faces again in November.