

# Early Years Newsletter



Friday 10th November 2017

King Henry VIII Preparatory School

Academic Year 2017-2018

Issue 7

## NURSERY NEWS

A very warm welcome back to all children and parents, we hope you all had a relaxing and exciting half term break. The children have been very enthusiastic whilst discussing any holiday news and they have enjoyed sharing this with their friends during group time. It was lovely to hear about the adventures the children have had over the holidays. Thank you to parents for contributing to the holiday activity sent home, this has enabled us to share these experiences and we have received some fantastic photos!



The children have been very excited whilst talking about the fireworks they watched last week, and any special firework events they attended. We have incorporated this into our activities and the children have enjoyed making firework pictures and experimenting with colours,

using paint and lots of glitter! This has resulted in some fantastic colourful and sparkly creations!

Continuing along the theme of fireworks, the children have also added glitter to our black play dough to make the impression of fireworks in a sparkly night sky. They have enjoyed looking at sparkles and bright colours contrasting against the dark play dough. This has also prompted the use of language such as squash, squeeze, press and push, and also the sound of fireworks such as bang, whoosh, whizz and zoom.



The children thoroughly enjoyed learning the song 'Dingle, Dangle, Scarecrow' during our recent Harvest Festival. We thought we would

continue this by following their interests and create scarecrow wooden spoon puppets. These scarecrows have all been individually created by the children. They are all magnificent and the activity has been enjoyed by all.



Next week we shall be continuing along the theme of 'Favourite Stories and Nursery Rhymes' and will be looking at the story of 'The Enormous Turnip', with many fun and varied activities planned for the children. Please can children bring a vegetable to Nursery on Monday next week, together with a small named container with a lid. We shall be making delicious vegetable soup and they will need a container to take it home. Thank you.

## Christmas Sing Song

We apologise if some of you have not thought about Christmas yet! We thought you may like to know in advance the date for this year's Nursery Christmas Sing Song in order for parents to keep this date free. Our Sing Song this year is being held on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December at 9:15am. Invitations and further information will be given nearer the time.

## Read, Write, Inc.

The children have begun to look at 'm' and 'a' this week. They have enjoyed looking at items brought in from home and thinking of items around Nursery beginning with these letters. They have also looked at the correct formation for these letter sounds. We shall be continuing next week with the letters 's' and 'd'. Once again, 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

We are pleased to see that the Reception children have come back excited, well rested and raring to go. We are all looking forward to a busy half term of trips, Nativity rehearsals and performances and lots of glitter!

This week and next, our topic is all about Transport. The children drew a map of their journey to school every morning and included particular highlights that they see on their way. On one map this included a giraffe! We also spoke about the importance of knowing your address by heart and practised this with them. Children put their road safety skills to test when practising how to approach a pretend pedestrian crossing using 'stop, look and listen' and had many other sensible suggestions for how to stay safe too.



In Maths our focus has been on ordering by length and height and measuring. Children made some colourful firework prints, where the fireworks were ordered by size. They also measured real life objects (including themselves) using cubes and rulers and then compared them. They have been independently applying this new learning in and around the classroom, measuring everything they can get their hands on!!



Next week children may mention to you that they have been working in a different classroom and with a different teacher. This is because we are planning to split into ability based phonics groups for the Phonics slot on your child's timetable. These groups are fluid and we are continuously assessing how children are getting on to ensure they are accessing the learning appropriate to their ability.

Some important dates to flag up to you are the 5<sup>th</sup> December (pm) and the 6<sup>th</sup> December (am). These are the dates of the Reception Christmas performance 'Noisy Nativity'. Rehearsals will begin soon so some children, who have said they are comfortable to have a speaking part in the play, will have lines to practise in their book bags tonight. Could you please help your child to recite these lines using a loud, clear voice. Prepare to hear the nativity songs sang on repeat at home - you may find yourself singing along to them during the performance!

As the weather is getting much colder (and wetter!) could you make sure your child brings a coat in with them every day. Could we also remind you to send full forest fun kit every Thursday. This includes waterproof trousers, a warm coat and wellies. On colder days could you also send a labelled hat and labelled gloves in.

Finally, a plea for kitchen roll inserts and cardboard boxes please! These are to be used in junk modelling to make vehicles. If you could please send them in early next week.