

Early Years Newsletter



Friday 24th November 2017

King Henry VIII Preparatory School

Academic Year 2017-2018

Issue 9

NURSERY NEWS

'Favourite Stories and Nursery Rhymes'

We have been continuing our theme of 'The Enormous Turnip' with the children taking part in some fantastic activities.

We began the week with the children learning about growth and changes over time and have been busy planting carrot seeds and bulbs. Hopefully we shall have some lovely carrots to eat and colourful flowers to brighten up the outdoor environment. We have discussed what the seeds and bulbs need to be able to grow and thrive and will spend the next few months watering and caring for them while observing any changes. It will be lovely to taste our own home grown carrots at some point through the year! The children have loved contributing to this and one little girl said "This is good fun, I like growing". This is so lovely to hear!



The children have also really enjoyed printing with a variety of vegetables. They used a range of colours and vegetables which has led to discussions about shapes, sizes and patterns. They have even used a variety of media together with the vegetables and paint, such as pasta and rice to make special pictures. We have had some wonderful creativity from the children while exploring and experimenting with the different media and materials. We have had pictures of, mummy, daddy, trees and flowers. Fantastic!



Our fruit and vegetable shop in the Nursery role-play area has also been wonderful. The children have been writing orders together with buying and selling the fruit and vegetables which have been real! Luckily the food is still intact and none of the children have tried to eat it! This has also promoted discussions about healthy foods and what different foods the children like to eat.

Forest Fun

Our Forest Fun session this week has been another enjoyable and messy experience for the children with many learning opportunities. They found vegetables which were hidden in the soil and pulled them out, just like in the story of the Enormous Turnip! We also had mud



pies being made, and the highlight of the day was a wiggly worm which the children found. They thought this was fantastic and a wonderful time was had by all! Some children couldn't wait to tell their parents at the end of the day what a fantastic time they had in the forest area!



Another wonderful activity which the children have participated in this week involves paint and trains to make marks on on large paper. This was a big hit with the children and they have loved driving the trains through the paint, watching the patterns and marks the train wheels made. Colours were also mixed as the trains whizzed through the paint and around the paper!

Nursery Christmas Sing Along Invitations

By the end of this week all parents should have received information regarding our Nursery Christmas Sing Along which will take place on Thursday 7th December 2017. The children also made their own special invitations and enjoyed making these for their parents, using felt tips, glue and sparkles! Unfortunately, due to limited space we can only accommodate two adults per child. Please could you send the reply slip back to Nursery by Friday 1st December 2017.



Next week we shall begin to talk about Christmas and continue to practice for our sing along. The children have all been amazing learning all the songs which we shall be singing to parents on 7th December. The children will also enjoy helping to decorate the Nursery and we have lots of exciting activities planned for the coming weeks! Not forgetting our Christmas trip to the Warwick Arts Centre on 12th December.

Read, Write, Inc.

The children have been looking at 't' and 'i' 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 during group times. We have also looked at the correct formation for these letter sounds. We shall be continuing next week with the letters 'n' and 'p' and if children have any items at home beginning with these letters they are welcome to bring them in to share with us.

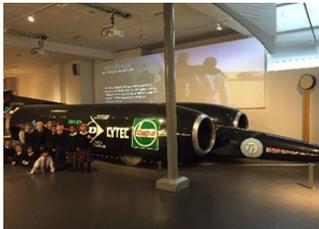
Change in sessions

If parents have not already done so, please can they return the change of session form for next term by Friday 1st December. You may choose to keep to the same sessions or increase them if you wish. Thank you.

RECEPTION NEWS

On Monday Reception had a fantastic time at the Transport Museum. We are lucky to have such an interesting place on our doorstep that we had to take advantage of it.

We were introduced to two old bikes, a penny-farthing and a 'boneshaker' (velocipede), and were told a story about Mr and Mrs Brown on their exciting race to Paris on the bone shaker! Afterwards we toured the museum and took part in an Early Years trail. There was so much to see and do there. Particular highlights were the sky blues homecoming bus, Queen Mary's Daimler and the cars of the future! We are sure you have heard all about the day too.



Our focus in Maths this week has been on 2D and 3D shapes. Children made a scary shape monster by printing with paint and used their problem solving skills to build a model with 3D shapes. We have looked at the properties of these shapes and found them in our classrooms. Have a look at home to see what 2D and 3D shapes you can find!

With Nativity rehearsals underway, we are already feeling in the Christmas spirit. This week children have written a letter to Father Christmas and (honestly?!) said whether they have been naughty or nice!! We are hoping to walk to the post box next week to send our letters to the North Pole. Could we ask you to send in a first class stamp for your child's letter? We have arranged for the responses to go direct to home addresses. Thank you.

As the Nativity is only just over a week away, could we ask you to start sending in costumes in a named bag. We would like all costumes in by Wednesday 29th November.

The children in Reception are now working within ability based phonics groups for 4 sessions per week. The children within your child's phonics group are all working at a similar level, which we feel is most beneficial to focus learning to individual needs. The focus in your child's group may be, for example, blending, recognising initial sounds or composing sentences. We are constantly assessing your child on how their learning is developing and if we feel they need to change groups we will. These groups are in no way rigid as children progress and learn at different speeds.