



Year 1 Newsletter

24th November 2023

Thank you to all of you who attended Parents Evening. We enjoyed meeting you all properly and hear about how you feel your child has settled in. As always, our communication lines are always open if you have any questions or concerns.

What is going on in the classroom?

English

The children have been doing a wonderful job with learning The Papaya that Spoke. We even performed it in front of the whole school during achievement assembly! They have thoroughly enjoyed working on expression which has linked in nicely with our work on dialogue. We have been looking at using speechmarks when characters say something in the story and tried to use lots of different ways to say the word 'said'. Some children have also managed to include adverbs.

Next week will be looking at the 'invent' stage of our talk 4 writing unit where the children 'hug' the text tightly but put their own spin on it. We can't wait to see their final results! Hopefully we will be able to share some examples with you before Christmas.

Maths

This week the children have rounded off their learning on Addition & Subtraction with a mini assessment. They have all done extremely well and we are really pleased with the progress they have made. It is evident that lots of the children have a love of numbers.

Next week we will be starting our work on shape. We will be looking at:

Recognising and Naming 3D Shapes

This small step is the first in a block of learning on shape. Children start by looking at 3-D shapes, as these are tangible shapes that they can touch and feel to help understand their identifying features. Children are required to name simple 3-D shapes such as cubes, cuboids, cylinders, pyramids, cones and spheres.

Sorting 3D Shapes

In this small step, children start to sort 3-D shapes. They should be given the opportunity to explore similarities and differences between shapes as they play, and to sort them according to what they notice. While they may have naturally started to sort 3-D shapes already, in this step children sort and group 3-D shapes more formally according to simple properties, including type, size and colour. As well as sorting shapes themselves, children also identify how given groups of shapes have been sorted. We will be encouraging the children to explain in detail what they notice about groups of shapes and to consider whether they could have been sorted another way. Children should think about the key features of each 3-D shape.

Naming and Recognising 2D Shapes

They will have experience of 2-D shapes and may already know some of the names. Children are required to name simple 2-D shapes, such as triangles, squares, rectangles and circles. As 2-D shapes cannot be physically explored in the same way as 3-D shapes, they can be difficult to introduce to children in a practical way. 3-D shapes can be used as a way of exploring 2-D shapes, where children focus on the faces of the 3-D shapes to identify which 2-D shapes they are made up of. They can also draw around 3-D shapes or use them to make prints of 2-D shapes. It is essential that children recognise that 2-D shapes are completely flat.

Sorting 2D Shapes

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Topic

The children had a fantastic final Forest School session for this half term last week. They became leaf detectives using an Identification Sheet and then were challenged to match them to the correct sticks. We hope to be able to return to Forest School later in the year because it has truly been a delight to see how well they can work with others, getting fresh air and having fun whilst learning.

We have been practising for our Nativity most afternoons but have of course made time to continue our learning in Science. We have looked at the 5 senses and what they allow us to do as well as a Human Timeline. We had a go at cutting our images and putting them in the correct order. The children should now know the terms baby, toddler, child, teenager, adult and elderly.

In DT this week we cooked carrot cakes as a way of practising skills using different kitchen utensils. We chopped, grated, peeled, mashed, mixed and whisked to create delicious carrot cupcakes! We hope you enjoyed sharing them with your children.

Family Box

Thea's family box: Thea shared photos of a family day out to Cadbury's with her three brothers and mummy. Thea loves drawing pictures and she shared some artwork from home. Thea has a dog called Lola

who is a cocker spaniel. Thea shared a comforter she has had since she was born. Thea shared a set of family wooden spoons that included mama, Zeb, Rix and Leo, She also shared her favourite story; Is That You Wolf? She said her favourite thing from the family box was her Cadbury's world bunny. Thanks for sharing Thea

Aarav showed a family picture from when he went on a Night Safari. He saw elephants and even a cheetah. Aarav shared his Shadow Puppet with the class. Aarav brought in his yoyo and showed us how he'd been practising with it. He brought in a unicorn that he got when he was 4. He brought it at The Deep which is the biggest aquarium in England. One of his favourite holidays was to Bali and Singapore. He found out that there are only two seasons – Summer and Winter. He brought in his scrapbook which helped him remember what he had done whilst he was there. Aarav's favourite place was the waterpark. He showed us some of the special shells he had collected on the beach in Bali. Aarav goes to the library and enjoys sharing books with his family. He enjoys Arts & Crafts and made an origami bird and crown. Aarav also loves to colour!

Top Tip

Rather than Elf on the Shelf this year, have you considered an Act of Kindness Activity calendar? Could they make a Christmas card for an elderly person? Could they bake cake for their neighbours? Could they promise to help cook dinner with you?

Dates for your diary

- Saturday 2nd December: PTFA Christmas Market (11am – 1pm)
- Monday 4th December: Christmas Film Night (after school)
- Tuesday 5th December: Flu Vaccinations
- Thursday 7th December: Nativity (am performance @ 9.45, pm performance @ 2)
- Friday 8th December: Panto Trip
- Tuesday 12th December: Christmas Dinner Day
- Thursday 14th December: Cooking with Cookstars
- Friday 15th December: Final Day
- Tuesday 2nd January: INSET DAY

Thank you for reading,
Mrs Lewis and Miss Evans