

Reception News

30.06.23

This week in Reception

We have had a fantastic week in Reception celebrating Pride month. The focus of this learning has been on the importance of love and recognising that we are all different and special. This led to insightful discussions about the different ways that people can express their identity through clothing, hair styles and music. The children learnt about the history of the Pride flag and the meaning behind each colour. They then designed their own flags to celebrate love and were able to explain why they had chosen to include specific colours and shapes. They also had a chance to talk about what makes each of them feel proud, which was lovely to hear.



In addition, we dedicated some time to learning about oral health and how to look after our teeth. The children were very excited to do a science experiment to illustrate the effects that different liquids can have on our teeth, using eggs, coca cola, orange juice and water. Many of the children were surprised to see that orange juice can erode dental enamel, despite coming from a healthy fruit! However, we explained that no food or drinks are bad if consumed in moderation and the children are brushing their teeth twice daily. The children also had a go at sorting food and drinks into healthy and less healthy groups. Everybody has been given a special tooth brushing chart to use at home (in their bookbags)!

Phonics:

This week the children learnt what compound words are (two words that are joined together to make a new word). They practised reading words such as **windmill**, **hairbrush**, **sandpit**, **lunchbox** and **handstand**. They also practised using the chunking technique to read longer words like **chimpanzee**. As well as consolidating the previously learnt tricky words, they learnt the new ones **what**, **when**, **says** and **one**. See if your child can think of a sentence using one of these tricky words?

Maths:

This week each class has done something slightly different, based on the needs of the children. Bears have been making up and drawing their own number stories using addition and subtraction. They have then been developing mathematical oracy by telling these stories to their friends and the rest of the class. Tigers and Lions have been looking at doubles and calculating 1 less than. All three classes have been using physical actions to represent the different mathematical symbols (ninja maths!).

The Great Kilmore Design Challenge – Thursday 6th June 4-6pm

As you are aware, on Thursday we will be selling the products that the children made as part of The Great Kilmore Design Challenge! This will coincide with a parent drop-in, in which you are welcome to come and have an informal chat with your child's class teacher and go and see their new class/meet their new teacher. You will also have a chance to look at your child's Special Book and Writing Book.

If you are planning to buy your child's tie-dye clothing, we ask for a **suggested donation of around £3 per item**. Please bring cash (ideally pound coins) as we will not have floats on the day so change may be in short supply. We are looking forward to seeing you all!

Advice on how to discuss the transition into Year 1 with your child:

Much of our focus from now, will be around preparing children for the transition into their new classes. At school we will be talking to the children about how exciting being in a new class will be, whilst also addressing any anxieties children may have. To reinforce this in your home you could:

- Explain that your child will still get to see friends from their current class (play times, phonics groups, communal year 1 outdoor area used daily in the first term)
- Tell your child that they will be able to keep old friendships but have even more friends through meeting new people
- Possibly organise playdates with new classmates outside of school, once the new class information has been released during the next half term.
- Reassure your child that they will get to see their new classroom and the Year 1 areas several times before making the transition in September
 - For any children who are particularly anxious or have additional needs, they will be able to visit their new classroom as much as is needed before September
- Let your child know that current Reception teachers will be available to welcome all children into their new classes on their first day of Year 1.

School website

Please do visit [our website](#), you can find details of forthcoming events on the [calendar](#) (& you can subscribe to your child/ren's year group so it will auto update your calendar), as well as photos of learning activities including educational visits in the [photo gallery](#), read all about recent events and sporting achievements in the [school news section](#) and much, much more!

Request from Shula (teacher)

I am writing to tell you about an exciting project I am undertaking to put together sets of sand play equipment that will stimulate and challenge all pupils in our early phase classrooms. I am looking for an assortment of resources that will enable the children to explore and develop the key behaviours of sand play which are - digging, filling, pouring (emptying), moulding and sifting. This is where I'm asking for your help! Have you any of the items listed below that you could donate?

Cutlery (metal and strong plastic), spatulas, wooden spoons, slotted spoons, ladles, whisks, potato mashers, sieves, tea strainers, colanders, scoops, measuring spoons, funnels, moulds, jugs, buckets, pots , saucepans, small spades.

Due to limited storage space, I am looking for the smaller kitchen utensils, pots, jugs, bottles, etc.

Please give any donations to class teachers stating,“ sand project” or “Shula”.

Thank you for your support.

The Reception Team

