

Weekly Learning Letter

Thursday 28th March 2024

This week in Reception:

We have made it to the end of the Spring term and what a lovely, fun and wonderful term it's been! The children have continued to develop their love of school and it has been great to watch them making progress in all areas of their learning. We can't wait to see what new challenges and adventures the new term will bring!

This week, the children have been learning about two different religious festivals; the Christian celebration of Easter and the Hindu festival of Holi. These festivals have been the impetus for all kinds of activities and learning including making Easter baskets, decorating eggs, making chocolate nests, drawing henna designs and thinking about the similarities and differences between different religious festivals. The week culminated in a paint throwing event outside, to replicate the Holi celebrations we have seen in videos from India. The children loved this, truly sensory, experience as the rain began to pour midway through our paint throwing party! Even those children who preferred not to be directly involved, enjoyed watching the mayhem unfold from the safety of 'homie' (an area of the playground that we deemed paint-free!)

Phonics:

This week in phonics the children stayed in their own classrooms, we used this time to review all the Phase 3 sounds and practised blending shorter and longer words. We also spent time writing down all the tricky words that we have learnt so far and played games to help the children remember all the new tricky words like **sure, all, she, he, they, me, me...**

The children have loved applying their phonics knowledge to their writing and we have seen their interest in writing grow this term, well done reception!

Maths / Number

This week in number we have enjoyed using white boards to write numbers and to talk about the many ways that we can represent them. The children summarised their learning this term using their language to express their number knowledge. They said: '2 and 2 makes 4', '6 is bigger than 4 because 4 can hide behind 6' or '7 is one more than 6'.

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Home learning ideas:

We're sure you will have noticed that your children are extremely tired at the moment and due a good rest! With this in mind, we only suggest that you keep reading regularly with your child (doing your best to ensure that it is a fun and relaxing activity for you both) and make the most of the improving weather by trying to get outside into your local park. Perhaps your child can share some facts about Spring with you? As always, we would love to see what the children enjoy doing over the holidays so please feel free to upload pictures to Evidence Me or bring them in to share with their classmates in the new term.

Reminders

Football Fridays

The children in Reception have come up with the idea of having a Football themed day on Fridays, when everyone can come to school wearing their football kits and proudly share their love for the sport and the team they support. We would love to see everyone joining in this special day from the first Friday back, the 19th of April.

To celebrate this sport, we will practise football skills and we will play football matches in the cage while we promote good sportsmanship and fair play.

Books for the holidays

This week we have been playing 1:1 phonics games instead of doing reading groups and the children have not read a Little Wandle book in school. We will therefore be sending a Bug Club book home for your child to practise reading over the holidays and will resume normal reading groups during the first week of the new term. We will also provide each of you with the login information for our online Little Wandle reading resource on your child's return to school after the holidays. The teachers will then be able to allocate a range of online books for your child to enjoy at home.

Will is a dad!

We are excited to announce that Will and his partner welcomed their healthy, baby girl into the world yesterday, 27th March. The Reception children were thrilled to hear the news (especially Tigers!) and Reception has been a hive of activity as children have made him cards and gifts. We know that the children will miss Will during his paternity leave but everybody is hoping he has a lovely few weeks.

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Have a happy and safe break and we will see you back on Monday 15th of April.

The Reception Team

