

Foundation Stage

Governor's Report Spring 2018

Foundation 1

After the Christmas break we explored the topic of Winter. We listened to the poem called 'Snow' by Walter De la Mere and created fabulous pictures of snowmen. We made some bird cake for the birds to help them through the cold months and have been practising putting on our coats and fastening them.



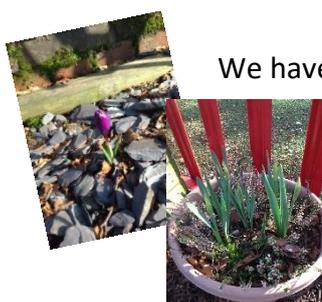
Traditional tales such as; The Three Little Pigs, Goldilocks, The Three Billy Goats Gruff and The Gingerbread Man have been the focus of our shared reading this term and the children have enjoyed joining in with the repetitive refrains and the re-telling of these stories. We made some of our own porridge and gingerbread too for the children to taste, touch and smell. We loved making bridges outside for the Billy Goats Gruff to trip trap across and we tried them out!



We have introduced the teaching of Phase 2 phonics to support the children develop early reading skills in readiness for Foundation 2. The children are really enjoying the phonic sessions and we have identified a group of children who are capable of progressing through the Jolly phonics programme at a quicker pace. We are also supporting the children's awareness and ability to hear the rhyme in words with a Rhyme Rocket. Each Friday we focus on a different rhyme family e.g. pig, wig, dig, jig. Big.

Parents have been invited into school for a Reading workshop where we will highlight the importance of reading stories to their children. Each child will receive a book by Julia Donaldson and an activity pack linked to the story.

We have explored some of our own and other cultures traditions such as; Shrove Tuesday, Valentine's day and Chinese New Year. We loved listening to the story of the big pancake and enjoyed eating our own pancakes after Mrs Walsh tried to flip them!



We have already started spotting some signs of Spring around us and are looking closely at how the bulbs we planted are changing.

Foundation 2

This term we have been finding out about Night-time. The children have listened to lots of different stories such as; Peace at Last, Can't you sleep little Bear and Owl babies. We have also been artists in Foundation 2 looking at Van Gogh's painting 'Starry night' and creating our own using paint, oil pastels and paper. We set our role play area up as a bedroom and the children enjoyed getting ready for bed, making hot chocolate and reading bedtime stories to each other. We talked about the importance of keeping ourselves healthy by going to bed early, brushing our teeth and washing our bodies. We also found out about nocturnal animals and were very lucky to get some new information books for our reading areas.



We were so excited to meet Take Home Ted and Harry Home Bear and we packed a bag for them with all the things they would need to stay at somebody's house for the weekend. We look forward to reading their diary when they come back to school on a Monday morning.



Every day after our lunch we look forward to brushing our teeth. We all have a special toothbrush which we keep in the same place each day on one of our toothbrush trains. Sarah from HealthBox got us started with the Supervised Toothbrushing programme and held an informative workshop for parents highlighting the importance of good dental care. We are looking forward to showing her our bright white smiles next week when she pops in to see how we are getting on.



Finding out about Chinese New Year was another exciting experience for the children. They were all very keen to visit our Chinese restaurant role play area where they could order food from the menu, eat their food with chopsticks, take food orders, cook and wash up. We also tasted some 'real' Chinese food and loved dipping our prawn crackers in the different sauces! We worked together to make our own Chinese dragon heads they looked fierce and fantastic! We attached long pieces of fabric to the head and performed a dragon dance, creating our own music to accompany the dancing using a variety of percussion instruments.



One day some cakes which we had to give to Grandma were mysteriously eaten and the children had to discover where they had gone. This led to the children making 'wanted' posters for Mr Wolf and lots of activities relating to the story of Little Red Riding Hood. When the cakes were recovered the children used them to practically add together how many cakes Red Riding Hood was taking to Grandma. They particularly enjoyed dressing up as the characters and retelling the story of Little Red Riding Hood. The children also took part in a P4C session linked to Red Riding Hood where they debated whether Little Red Riding Hood should have stopped to talk to the wolf. They enjoyed voting and with a little support were able to explain their



thinking. We picked out some words from the story which were new to us and made them our trophy words.



In February we hosted a cluster group meeting which was led by Pip Landers and was very well attended. We received lots of compliments about our provision and teachers from other schools took away some new ideas with them.



We are looking forward to inviting parents into school in the next few weeks to share a story and take part in some activities linked to the story, Bumble bear.