

Foundation Stage
Foundation One
Autumn Term 2018

The Foundation One Induction Programme was very successful this year. Initially we took in the full time children and they attended all day from the start. Next, children with additional needs attended their morning or afternoon session and finally children began their sessions according to their chronological age, youngest children first.

Getting to know you, getting to know each other and getting to know our school was the focus of our sessions for the first few weeks. We introduced the children to Mersey Bear and our behavioural expectations including how to play in the new learning environment. The children quickly began to learn the names of the staff and other children.



The children have been encouraged to attend all of their sessions each week and are rewarded with a 'Mersey Bear Attendance Hero' certificate on a Friday if they manage to do this. The children are very proud of themselves when they receive their certificates.



Playing in the leaves, collecting conkers and harvesting vegetables are just a few of the Autumnal activities that the Foundation One children have taken part in over the past few months. The children were amazed that the potatoes they pulled up from under the ground tasted so delicious!



At Harvest time the children also enjoyed dressing up as different fruit and vegetables. They learnt lots of new vocabulary and had great fun at the same time.



Bonfire night created lots of interest and excitement amongst the children and they loved creating sparkly pictures using glitter and PVA glue which reminded them of the fireworks they had seen.



Mrs Forsey and Mrs Williams attended a Parent Partnership training session called PEEPS and are looking forward to planning sessions for the parents in the New Year.

Foundation 2



At the start of the term we staggered the children's start dates to enable them to settle in and become familiar with the staff and Foundation Stage environment. It also gave us the opportunity to carry out baseline assessments and to get to know each child individually.



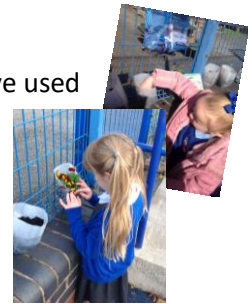
At the end of September the children's parents were invited to our Welcome meeting where we shared lots of useful information. We highlighted our expectations and emphasized the importance of strong links between home and school. We set up Tapestry, an online learning journey and the parents have enjoyed looking at and commenting on their children's achievements in school. We have also published a monthly Foundation 2 Newsletter and Healthy Recipe of the month. The children have made a tasty Autumn Apple and Blackberry crumble, a Raita dip and more recently we roasted a pumpkin and chopped up vegetables to make a delicious Pumpkin soup.



The children have enjoyed spending time in their key worker groups and have been thinking about important adults in their lives and how families can be different. We introduced them to Monkey Bob and his family. Key messages from these sessions included giving children tools to be able to understand their feelings and how they can share them with familiar adults.



We have also been busy recycling old milk cartons in Foundation 2! We have used them as planters to plant crocus bulbs and Winter pansies. We have attached them to our railings and we will be watching them carefully over the coming weeks and months to see if we can see them growing.



The children were very excited to learn about the Hindu celebration, 'Diwali'. The role play areas were cleaned and polished in preparation for the celebration and the children made Rangoli patterns for the doorstep. They listened to the story of Rama and Sita and dressed up as the characters. We used salt dough to make divas and used lots of fabulous words to describe how the dough felt before and after cooking. The children then enjoyed decorating them with colourful paints and glitter.



As we come to the end of our first term we can see that the children have come on in leaps and bounds. They are rapidly developing a Mersey Park Mindset and are learning to show empathy and understanding towards each other's feelings.

The children are enjoying their daily phonics sessions and love taking home the new sounds that they have been learning each week on their 'Jolly Phonics Keyrings'. All of the children are also taking home reading books and the parents are embracing some of the ideas that we shared with them during our Reading and Phonics workshop.



