



Dear Parents, Carer's,

This week has continued to be very busy and productive, with lots of planned and unplanned learning opportunities.

We began by building upon last week's learning about the festival of Diwali, with a greater focus on Rangoli patterns. Children were then given the opportunity to create their own, using assorted objects and materials. Activities such as these allow children to be creative, as well as demonstrating mathematical concepts such as symmetry and spatial awareness. Within the creative area, we were able to develop this further by using stencils and authentic, Indian, wooden, printing blocks, to create our own Rangoli pattern. They are beginning to look amazing and will soon be displayed within the classroom.

Winter Wonderland!

On Tuesday, we were all taken by surprise when we awoke to snow! It coincided wonderfully with our Forest School session, where we had a wonderful time making tracks across an unblemished white field. We walked, we ran, we caught snow-flakes on our tongue, rolled snowballs and finally built our own largescale snowman which has been keeping watch over the Nursery building. To be able to experience the snow first hand has been a memorable moment for all of us.

Since science was paramount this week, we used our new microscope to look at snow and ice more closely. The children were able to see the magnified images on the big interactive board and watched as it began to melt under the microscope.



Forest School clothing

Please remove your child's Forest school clothing from their bag each week to ensure it is dry and aired. As the weather is now getting colder, they will also need to have clothing that provides them with adequate warmth and protection from the elements. Remember there is no such thing as bad weather. It is the clothing we wear.

The Good Day Farm

Farm animals arriving at school on a minibus, was a real highlight for us all on Wednesday. We all had an amazing time meeting and finding out about Sandra the pig (who likes her belly scratched), Gladys the chicken, John the cockerel, Mo the Shetland pony, Percy the goat, Polly the duck with her children and Mirabelle the sheep. To be able to get so close and interact with these home reared farm animals was a real delight. They were calm and very therapeutic.






Mathematics

This week we have been consolidating numbers 1-3 by playing a subitising game 'Roll and cover'. Using a 1-3 labeled dice, children identified which number and then found the corresponding arrangement of dots on their board and placed a counter on it.

We have also continued to develop an awareness of repeating patterns by copying, extending and creating our own.

Phonics

In our daily phonics we have continued to learn about letters and their associated sounds. We have revisited previous letter, 's', 'a', before being introduced to the letter 't'.

Grapheme and mnemonic		Pronunciation phrase	Formation phrase	Multisensory action
	t	Open your lips; put the tip of your tongue behind your teeth and press t t t	From the tiger's nose to its tail, then follow the stripe across the tiger.	Make a claw with one hand and motion scratching
	a	Open your mouth wide and make the 'a' sound at the back of your mouth a a a	Around the astronaut's helmet, and down into space.	Use two hands to put on a helmet
	s	Show your teeth and let the s hiss out ssssss ssssss	Under the snake's chin, slide down and round its tail.	Motion the hand to look like a snake moving

Christmas Play

All of the children have now been given a role to play within our Christmas play and letters have been sent out to you via your child's bookbag. Children who have a speaking part, need to practice speaking in a loud clear voice.

On Thursday 12th December it is our dress rehearsal, which we perform to the school. This is a great opportunity for siblings to watch and prepares the children performing for parents on Friday 13th.

If your child does not attend Nursery on a Thursday, they will need to come in for 10.00am and be collected at 11.30am. they need to be in school uniform.

On Friday 13th December all children need to arrive promptly by 8.50am to ensure that we are all toileted and in our costumes. They need to be wearing full school uniform. Those children who do not attend on a Friday can then go home after the performance.

Coats

Please ensure your child's coat, hat and gloves are clearly named.

Illness

It is imperative that we all follow the guidelines for illness. If your child is ill, telephone the school office and give a brief message about why they will not be attending.

A reminder that if your child needs Calpol or similar before school, they are not fit to attend. It merely suppresses the symptoms and spreads quickly to others.

If your child has sickness or diarrhea, they must not return until 48 hours after the last bout of illness.

If you have any questions about any of the above, please do not hesitate to speak to me. Have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards,
Mrs M Sims
Nursery Class Teacher

"I am not a teacher, but an awakener."

