

## **Reception Class Learning Blog – Summer Term – Week 1**

*Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2023*

Welcome back everybody! We hope you all had a super Easter break and managed to relax and spend some quality time with all those who are special to you. We begin the final part of our journey towards Year 1. We have reached the last term of the academic year, which will be filled with many more learning opportunities and excitement. It has been a busy week getting back into the swing of things and we welcomed Mrs Butler back, albeit briefly, this time with her baby daughter, Fintrá.

During Talk4Writing this week, we learnt about Paramedics.

We learnt that paramedics see people who are very ill or need help in an emergency before they are taken to hospital. Some are called First Responders and arrive in a car, on a motor bike or a bike and some paramedics fly in the air ambulance. We created an ambulance role play area where we included a stretcher, a wheelchair, a first aid kit, a seat for a relative, a tablet to input medical information, an ECG machine to check the heart and cleaning cloths to make sure that we did not spread germs to our patients. We selected our ambulance resources based on the information we had read about in our non-fiction book.

This week, we also celebrated the festival of Eid. Some of our friends in class will be celebrating this festival shortly. We learnt that Muslims celebrate Eid with their families and friends. Together, they attend prayers at the Mosque, which we learnt was the place of worship for Muslims. We learnt that the religion is called Islam and recognised the special symbol of the crescent moon and star, which we used to make Eid mobiles. Yusuf very kindly brought in a prayer mat, a study book and an Arabic phonics poster. We learnt that the holy book of Islam is called The Qur'an and were fortunate enough to have one on display in class. We learnt that this was a very special book, which must be treated with respect. It was interesting to find out that Arabic is read from right to left, which is the opposite way from the English language. We also looked at the differences in the alphabets. We learnt about how Muslims prepared themselves for prayer by washing their face, hands, arms and feet and used a prayer mat, which faces Makkah.

Throughout the week, we shared a story called, *Hassan and Aneesa Celebrate Eid* and watched film clips of how Muslim families prepare for this special festival. We learnt that houses are cleaned and decorated, new clothes are worn and delicious food is prepared. To celebrate Eid as a class, we shared dates during snack time. We also learnt that families collect for charity to help those who are most in need. This reminded us of how important it is to be kind to one another and also demonstrates our school value of empathy.

We continued our Eid theme into Maths this week and revisited our learning of patterns and 2D shapes. We watched Mehndi patterns being created. These are special patterns made from henna (from the horse chestnut tree) that are piped onto the skin in preparation for celebrations. We described and discussed the patterns and noticed that lots of nature imagery was used, such as leaves flowers, vines and butterflies. We had a go at designing our own patterns, based on the ones we had spent time looking at. We also looked at Islamic patterns and identified the 2D shapes within them. We learnt that these patterns were tessellated, which meant that the same shapes were

repeated, leaving no spaces. We had a go at creating some of our own repeating patterns too.

Our Summer Term Show & Tell Group Rota is as follows:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Group</b>
Mo 24-04-2023	Butterflies
Mo 15-05-2023	Honey Bees
Mo 22-05-2023	Orchids
Mo 12-06-2023	Red Kites
Mo 19-06-2023	Woodpeckers
Mo 26-06-2023	Butterflies
Mo 03-07-2023	Honey Bees
Mo 10-07-2023	Orchids
Mo 17-07-2023	Red Kites
Tu 18-07-2023	Woodpeckers

We look forward to hearing about the interesting items brought in by Butterflies on Monday afternoon during Show and Tell. These will be housed in the Show & Tell box to keep them safe throughout the day.

Congratulations to our Star of the Week certificate recipients:

- ❖ Yusuf, for bring in his precious Eid artefacts, sharing his knowledge and showing kindness to others by sharing his dates.
- ❖ Alizah, for reminding us to show kindness to others during Eid.

Our Writer of the Week certificate goes to:

- ❖ Vincent, for taking part in the phonics session and following the instructions accurately.

Well done on our first week back Reception Class!

Eid Mubarak to all those who are celebrating Eid with their families and friends.

Have a lovely weekend.

With every best wish,  
Mrs Dowling & Miss Ingleby