

Reception Class Learning Blog – Spring Term – Week 5

Friday 3rd February 2023

Very, very tired but very, very happy children crossed the Reception Class threshold this week. We continue to work hard as we edge ever closer to half term, with only one more week to go!

Our focus story, *We're Going on a Bear Hunt* has been set to music this week. The children have worked diligently to match the sounds of percussive instruments to the setting sound descriptions in the story. They have taken a very mature approach and really thought about the timbre and rhythm to bring the story to life in a different way. Some children went on to be conductors during learning through play and refined the skills they had learnt during the T4W sessions and developed their own orchestras. We performed our composition to Mrs Goodfellow, who has been helping us this week. Today we began inventing our own story and will complete this next week...watch this space!

This week saw Reception Class splitting into smaller phonics groups for more precise work to continue. The children have participated in Phonics sessions with relish, making it all the more difficult to select the daily Secret Phonics Star in each group. We continue to develop our writing skills during Child Initiated Learning and have enjoyed revisiting the books we wrote the previous week and adding to them. Some children donated their books to our class reading den for others to read.

During our Maths sessions, we have been learning about odd and even numbers. At the beginning of the week, we used the Numicon number tiles to identify the shapes of odd and even numbers. During our investigations, we discovered that an even number always has a partner, whilst an odd number always has a circle left on its own. We identified that these numbers create a pattern and have been learning to describe it using a hundred square. We also learnt that the numbers 0 to 9 are called one-digit numbers and that numbers from 10 to 99 are called two-digit numbers. We know that the ones digit helps us to work out whether a number is odd or even.

This week, we created a class mood board in preparation to design our beach hut interiors. This linked to our setting work in our focus story, as well as the work we had previously covered about the Jurassic Coast. We have also been learning about hibernation and shared a story called, *Bear's Winter Home*, which described how bears hibernate during the winter. We linked this to non-fiction information which we shared as a class. We learnt that bears hibernate for up to six months and that they eat vast quantities of food just before to build up the fat in their bodies. It was interesting to find out that a bear's heartbeat and breathing slow down whilst they are hibernating – this helps them to conserve energy.

We would like to wish Teddy a very happy 5th birthday this weekend. We hope you have lots of fun.

Congratulations to our Star of the Week certificate recipients:

- ❖ Navika, for her developing confidence during phonics sessions.
- ❖ Charlie, for his kindness and consideration towards others in class. He is very caring and is always ready to lend a helping hand.

Our Writer of the Week certificate goes to:

- ❖ Louie, who has been working very hard to use his phonics knowledge to write sentences.

Well done Reception Class! We look forward to developing our knowledge, skills and learning next week.
Have a good weekend everyone!

With every best wish,
Mrs Dowling & Mrs Butler