

Reception Class Learning Blog – Spring Term – Week 4

Friday 27th January 2023

It has been a very, very busy but exciting week as we reflect on our learning. The children have shown true resilience, because it has been a little tricky coming in this week, but a good time was had by all. This week, we welcomed Miss Ingleby, who will be working with us until the end of the academic year when Mrs Butler goes on her maternity leave. Miss Ingleby will be visiting over the next few weeks to get to know the children. She has been very impressed by everyone and is really looking forward to helping us with our learning.

Our focus story, *We're Going on a Bear Hunt* has taken a new and exciting direction! This week, we have been looking at the describing words. We have learnt that these are called adjectives and are used to make writing interesting. We also identified the adjectives for each setting. However, we didn't stop there...we also looked at the sound descriptions and matched them to percussive instruments. We learnt the names of the instruments and we can definitely say that our favourite one was the vibro-slap tambourine.

We have completed another stage of our phonics learning and have been revising our phonemes and digraphs. We have become increasingly confident with our writing and there was an explosion of creativity in this area after we made our own notebooks. We are all having a go at using our phonics knowledge to write our own fascinating stories with themes such as, our secret diaries, aliens arriving from Jupiter, and unicorns to name but a few.

During our Maths sessions, we have continued to use the language of measurement. This week, we have been using standard measures and have learnt how to use a ruler, meter stick and trundle wheel. We recalled that we needed to measure from a baseline, so that every measurement starts from the same position to make it fair and from the number 1. We identified that every segment on the ruler and meter stick is 1cm long. We learnt that a trundle wheel measures longer distances and practised listening for the clicking sound. We applied this knowledge by hosting a wellie boot throwing competition, and measured the distance. Congratulation to our winner Nico, who threw a magnificent distance of 9m.

To continue our interest in fossils we learnt about the Jurassic Coast, which is located in the South of England. We discovered that it is the best place on earth to find fossils and saw some amazing photographs. As a result of this, we took an interest in other things we could find at the beach and spied some beach huts. We have begun designing and painting our very own beach huts this week and look forward to using these during role playing opportunities. We also created a class weather station. So far, we have been using the chart to identify the weather and a thermometer to measure the temperature. We continue to predict the weather with our pine cone – if it is closed, then this is a sure sign of rain and if it is open, the weather should be fine and dry. We look forward to developing this area of learning.

We would like to wish George a very happy 5th birthday. George celebrated his birthday last week. We hope you had lots of fun. We would also like to send hearty congratulations to Oliver and his family, who had a little baby boy this week. Oliver assures us that he will be a very good big brother.

Congratulations to our Star of the Week certificate recipients:

- ❖ Olivia-Lily, for her perseverance, as she spent two days writing her own book and learnt to use a grapheme mat to help her with her writing.
- ❖ Alizah, for her story about a unicorn and steadily building her confidence to use a grapheme mat to help her with her writing.

Our Writer of the Week certificate goes to:

- ❖ Arthur, for diligently working on his jottings in his notebook and inspiring other children to join him in the wonderful world of writing.

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