

Reception Class Learning Blog – Spring Term – Week 9

Friday 10th March 2023

We started the week by welcoming a new addition. I am so very pleased to announce that Mrs Butler had her baby girl, Fintrá Rose Butler on Monday 6th March 2023. Mum and baby are doing well, and we wait in anticipation for Mrs Butler to visit us with her daughter soon.

During our Busy Fingers sessions in the morning, we have been practising writing the numbers 0 – 9 correctly. We had to listen to the instructions carefully and then copy the formation. With help, we have been making sure that we are writing all our numbers the correct way round.

If you would like to continue practising this at home, please click on the link below:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8ii202RoEd8>

In Maths, we have been working on our taking away understanding and skills. We have learnt that when an item is taken away from a group, the number of objects becomes smaller, so there are less of them.

This week, we started by practising taking objects away from a group of 10 and physically seeing the group become smaller.

Next, we worked on saying a subtraction number sentence. We recalled the symbol equals (=) from the addition sentences and learnt how to recognise the take away symbol (-). We noticed that the first number in our number sentence had to be bigger, so that the smaller number could be taken away from it.

After that, we revisited our number line and demonstrated how to complete a subtraction number problem. We learnt that we started with the bigger number and counted (jumped) backwards to find the answer. The smaller number helped us to identify how many jumps back we needed to do.

Finally, as always, we checked our answer using objects and/or our fingers before writing down the number.

At the end of the week, we challenged ourselves to complete a selection of subtraction problems on the Interactive Whiteboard.

We are continuing with our non-fiction book focus during Talk4Writing. This week, the title of our focus book was, Police Officers. We were reminded that a non-fiction book can be read in any order. We practised reading the Contents Page and throughout the week found out many interesting facts about the work Police Officers do. We created a shared piece of writing throughout the week, where we were encouraged to use our phonics knowledge and a grapheme mat to help us. We checked that our sentences included a capital letter at the beginning, finger spaces in between words and a full stop at the end. We were also introduced to a tricky word and themed word mat to help us with our spelling. We are steadily developing our Police Station role play area, complete with an office and cells!

The beginning of the week saw us embark on a ramble around the school grounds to see if we could identify the signs of Spring. We used our Spring Checklist to help us identify the items. The walk was particularly interesting, as it began to snow halfway through! We managed to identify some of the items on the list, such as blossom, daffodils and buds. We questioned why it began to snow and learnt that this is a crossover period between the seasons of Winter and Spring – winter time is coming

to an end and the spring time is just beginning. We also learnt that it would take time to see the season of Spring unfolding, so will revisit this activity again later on. In the meantime, we will continue to develop our Spring display.

Towards the end of the week, we revisited our knowledge of the tools and resources we use for attaching craft items together. Since we have rekindled our interest in design and model making, we wanted to add to our skills set. We have already learnt how and when to use a glue stick and PVA glue; how to safely take sticky tape from a dispenser and the technique for placing and securing split pins. This week, we learnt about the stapler. We looked at different types of staplers (wall and desk staplers) and talked about the jobs they do. We learnt how to open the stapler safely and how to place more staples in it. We understood that the stapler needs to remain on the table and that we press down onto it using the palm of our hand.

We look forward to hearing about the interesting items brought in by Orchid group 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:

- ❖ Marley, for taking an active role during class discussions.
- ❖ Arthur, for inventing a new game and encouraging others to play it with him.

Our Writer of the Week certificate goes to:

- ❖ Olivia, for using her phonics knowledge to write an interesting sentence about the Police.

Well done Reception Class! Have a lovely weekend everybody.

With every best wish,
Mrs Dowling & Miss Ingleby