



# The Children's NEWS



4<sup>th</sup> October 2021

What a busy fortnight we've had in Acorn Class! We have been particularly proud of how well the children are getting to know each other, making new friends and engaging in new activities.

We have really enjoyed sharing the children's All About Me books with them. It has been lovely to see all the pictures and hear the children talk about the special people in their lives. We were impressed when the children were able to add extra detail in to their talk, telling us interesting things about their families and the things they enjoy doing. Communication and language is a very important part of the Early Years curriculum and we are always encouraging the children to share their thoughts, ideas and feelings about things using detailed sentences. *Perhaps you could encourage your child to go in to more detail when they are chatting to you about their day in Acorn Class.*

The crates proved to be very popular in the outdoor area last week. We put them together to make a train which was very exciting and everybody wanted to ride on the 'Acorn Choo Choo train'. The children worked together to decide who would be the driver and are developing their ability to take turns and negotiate roles. One child decided that we needed some tickets, so we had great fun making them, writing on them and giving them out to the other passengers.

The children have also enjoyed making faces and other creations with the natural loose parts materials. They enjoyed hunting around the garden to find the right sticks to make the perfect smile and also collected leaves to be ears and hair. The children chatted to each other about what they were doing and used all sorts of vocabulary to describe parts of a face, the materials they were using and to negotiate sharing and swaps. *Perhaps you could have a look round your outdoor space and find some bits to make a face. You could share it on Tapestry.*



The children may have mentioned the fire alarm going off! Last week we practised a fire drill just with Acorn A and B and we were really pleased with how sensible the children were, stopping when they heard the alarm and walking quietly to the field in a line. At some point soon, the children will join in with a whole school fire drill practise. **Can your child talk about what to do if they hear an alarm going off at school or at home?**

## Letters and Sounds

The children have continued to use fantastic listening skills in Phonics and have enjoyed exploring instrumental sounds. The children started by using natural resources such as shells, pine cones and sticks to make different sounds. They were then introduced to different musical instruments, learning the sound each one made. We explored how the sounds could be changed and the children were fantastic at following picture clues to play their instrument loudly or quietly. **If your child has a musical instrument at home, such as a maraca or drum, you could ask them to play it loudly, quietly, quickly or slowly.**

### **Diary Dates:**

Parents Consultations –	Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> October (Acorn A) Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> October (Acorn B)
<b>HALF TERM –</b>	<b>Monday 25<sup>th</sup> – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> October</b>
<b>INSET DAY –</b>	<b>Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November (School closed)</b>
School Open Evening –	Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> November 6pm (for prospective parents of children starting in Reception in Sept 2022)
Children in Need –	Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> November (Acorn A) Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> November (Acorn B)
Christmas Jumper Day –	Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> December
Christmas Party –	Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> December
<b>END OF TERM –</b>	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> December

### **Tapestry**

Thank you to those parents that have already uploaded observations of their child onto Tapestry. We love seeing your child's achievements. We will be giving you ideas in every newsletter for what you could focus your observations on at home...

#### **Observation focus of the fortnight:**

- **Can your child climb stairs independently? What else do they like climbing?**
- **Can your child talk about why it is important to keep their teeth clean? Can they say what they need to do to keep their teeth healthy?**

### **Show and Tell:**

#### **Acorn A:**

- 4<sup>th</sup> Oct – Special to me
- 11<sup>th</sup> Oct – Special teddy/ soft toy
- 18<sup>th</sup> Oct - Favourite book
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov – My Half Term

#### **Acorn B:**

- 7<sup>th</sup> Oct – Special to me
- 14<sup>th</sup> Oct – Special teddy/ soft toy
- 21<sup>st</sup> Oct - Favourite book
- 4<sup>th</sup> Nov – My Half Term

## **Important Reminders:**

- Please pack a spare jumper or cardigan in your child's bag each day so we can change that if it gets wet.
- If anyone is having a clear out, we would be grateful for donations of spare clothes aged 3-4 and 5-6 (we have plenty of underwear - trousers, tops and jumpers would be very helpful). We would also be grateful of any old technology that you are happy for the children to investigate and dismantle at our 'Tinker Table'. Old laptops, CD players, remote controls etc.
- Please only put water in your child's water bottle. We will refill it when needed. The children are offered milk daily too.
- If your child is unwell and off sick, please do let the office know and they will inform us in Acorn class.