



The Children's NEWS



8th November 2021

We hope you and your child had a lovely half term break. The children enjoyed telling the rest of the class what they had been up to over half term in Show and Tell and it looks as though the children enjoyed lots of spooky, Halloween fun.

The children had a busy week in Acorn last week. The children made their own rocket pictures by using 2D shapes. They had to select the most appropriate shape for each part of the rocket. **Why not have a go at using 2D shapes to make a picture at home with your child? They could make a vehicle, a robot or a flower. Encourage your child to use the shape name and say why they are using that particular shape.**

The children also learnt about Diwali and heard the Diwali story. They then made beautiful Diwa lamps out of clay and pretty beads and talked about the story with their key worker. We looked at a pretty sari and thought about special party clothes, then read a Diwali book. These items were kindly sent in by one of our parents. Thank you.

During child initiated learning, the children have been enjoying using 3-D shapes to build towers, rockets, houses – all sorts!! They particularly enjoyed building towers and seeing if they could make it just a little bit taller by adding more blocks. It was great to see the concentration. They have also enjoyed helping to decorate our home corner with Diwali decorations of decorated hand shapes that they made independently at the craft table. Mark making has been popular this week with many children choosing to use chalks to make marks on pieces of black paper. Some children are beginning to write parts of their name. **Why not find out more about Diwali and how it is celebrated. Talk about other celebrations that you enjoy together as a family. If you see any fireworks this weekend, let us know.**





Phonics Listening Skills

Before half term, the children were learning to use body percussion to make different sounds in phonics. We played games where the adult would use body percussion to make a pattern that the children then had to echo (e.g. clap, clap, stomp, stomp). **Why not ask your child to teach you this game at home?** We also used different body percussion sounds to make the sounds of a storm building up, starting with wind and light rain building up to heavy rain and then thunder. We will now be moving on to rhythm and rhyme in phonics. **Look out for the sheet in your child's folder over the next couple of weeks with ideas of how you can support your child with this aspect at home.**

Early Maths

Last week we started to look at small quantities and compare them to see which had more and which had fewer. We are practising counting up to 5 objects carefully and accurately. We are beginning to use a 5 frame to help us compare quantities visually – the children can see that 3 is fewer than 5 on the frames. We have also been comparing the size of things using vocabulary such as smaller, larger, taller, longer, shorter. We read Julia Donaldson's *A Squash and a Squeeze* and thought about how many people we might be able to fit in to a small space. **Why not try carefully counting out small quantities of household objects (1-5) - we show the children to either line them up and tap each item once, or to move each object from place to another as they count, this helps to prevent double counting.**

Diary Dates:

Anti-Bullying Week -	WC 15 th Nov. The children will take part in activities that explore similarities and differences and how to be a good friend.
School Open Evening –	Thursday 18 th November 5 – 6.30pm (for prospective parents of children starting in Reception in Sept 2022)
Children in Need –	Tuesday 16 th November (Acorn A) Friday 19 th November (Acorn B)
Christmas Jumper Day –	Wednesday 15 th December
Christmas Party –	Wednesday 15 th December
END OF TERM –	Friday 17 th December

Important Reminders:

- Please can you name coats, hats, scarves, gloves etc. to make it easier for us to reunite them with their owners.
- Please don't pack any nuts or products containing nuts in your child's lunch box as we have members of our school with severe allergies. This includes Nutella or any other chocolate hazelnut spread which is found in quite a few other products such as filled pancakes and some chocolate pastries. Thank you
- Please could you dress your children in an extra layer of clothes. We are keeping windows open to aid ventilation and it is beginning to get colder.

Tapestry

Thank you to those parents that have continued to upload observations of their child onto Tapestry. We love seeing your child's achievements. If you see 'AL' after an observation it means the activity was adult led. Most other observations will be made of the children when they are in their child-initiated learning time.

Observation focus of the fortnight:

Can your child recognise familiar words and signs such as advertising logos?

Have you taken part in any activities as a family to mark Bonfire Night or Remembrance Day? Did your child join in? Are they starting to show an understanding of these occasions?

Show and Tell:

Acorn A:

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9th Nov- Bonfire Night

16th Nov – Something I've Made

23rd Nov – My favourite rhyme

Acorn B:

11th Nov – Bonfire Night

18th Nov - Something I've Made

25th Nov – My favourite rhyme