



The Children's NEWS



2nd October 2023

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. If you haven't had the chance to return the All About Me Book yet, don't worry, send it in when you can and we will share it together. The children love to pick them up and look through them throughout the year.**



The mud kitchen proved to be very popular in the outdoor area last week. The children enjoyed getting their hands dirty and mixing up some amazing concoctions. They worked together to talk about what they were doing and share the resources. We were able to introduce some new vocabulary such as mix, stir, chop, wooden spoon, frying pan etc. We were also able to encourage the children to think about what the mud felt like – 'cold', 'yucky', 'gooey' were some of the good words they used. **Perhaps you could have a go at making a mud pie or a mud stew in the garden at home or when out and about.**

The children may have mentioned that they have been to the library. Last week we visited and each chose a book to take home. The children were very excited about this and enjoyed looking through

the book boxes and then sitting and looking through their books. Please don't forget to send the book back every Wednesday. Also, please send a clearly named book bag in with your child each Wednesday too. This will just be used for books. We find that library books often don't fit in to the children's school bags and often get soggy (damp clothes and water bottle incidents!). The book bag doesn't have to be the Gothic Mede one but if you would like to order one of those the link is; <https://www.totalclothingshop.co.uk/gmp>



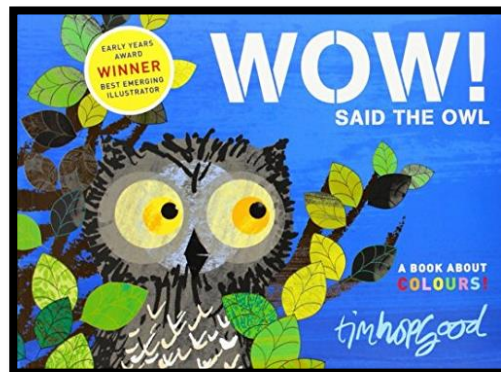
Phonics

We have continued with our daily phonics sessions and the children are building up the concentration to engage with games for slightly longer. We are continuing to focus on listening skills which are essential for acquiring phonics knowledge and understanding. This week, we will be listening to and identifying the sounds our families might make at home e.g talking, shouting, coughing, laughing, sneezing, crying and even snoring! We will be using instruments to recreate those sounds and to join in with a 'sound' story. We explore how instruments can be used to make different types of sound and play around with loud and quiet sounds. 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. Please share your experiences on Tapestry.

Maths (and lots of other areas of the curriculum too!)

Over the last two weeks we have been learning all about colour. We have been naming common colours and sorting objects in to their colour groups and spotting the odd one out. We have been encouraging the children to explain in words why they have chosen

a particular colour or a group to sort an item in to. This helps them to develop their communication and language skills. We have read the books 'The Colour Monster' by Anna Llenas and 'Wow Said the Owl' by Tim Hopgood. The 'Colour Monster' is particularly good for encouraging the children to talk about their feelings and we have linked the colours in the story to our Kipsy Caterpillar display. Each child has made a Kipsy caterpillar and they choose where to put it on the morning depending on how they are feeling. It gives us an opportunity to chat to the children about how they are feeling and why.



Diary Dates:

Open Evening - Wednesday 11th October 5 – 6.30pm

HALF TERM – Monday 23rd – Friday 27th October

Parents Evening & SEND Reviews – Tuesday 7th & 9th November

END OF TERM – Friday 22nd December

SPRING TERM COMMENCES – Monday 8th January



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 - these are in the green text at the end of each section in the newsletter. However, we are happy to have observations of anything new or exciting your child has done. We have had some lovely observations this week and particularly enjoyed seeing one of the acorns a child found on an autumn walk and a child's new pet.

Show and Tell:

Please post a picture of your child's object on Tapestry and we will share them together. Please don't feel that you have to do this every week – just if there is a special item your child wishes to share. Show and Tell is great for developing confidence in communication and language.

Acorn A & B:

WB 2nd Oct and 9th Oct – Autumn things

WB 16th Oct – Special teddy/ soft toy

WB 30th Oct and 6th Nov – Something I did at 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.
- We do spend a lot of time outdoors, even if it's cold and wet, so please do make sure your child has a warm coat and clothes appropriate for the weather. Please could you name everything that gets sent in to school as it make reuniting it with your child much easier. Sharpie in the label is fine.
- Please can we ask that children's own cuddlies and toys don't come in to school? It can cause a lot of distress when they are misplaced or picked up by other children. Thank you