

13th September 2023

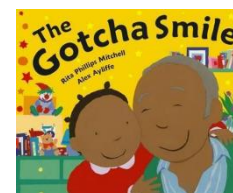
A huge, warm welcome to Acorn Class. Firstly, we would like to say how proud we are of the children and how well they settled in their first weeks at Nursery, especially considering how hot it has been. We have seen big smiles from everyone and any children who have become a little upset as their carer has left have been settled and happy very quickly. The children have loved exploring and finding out about all the areas that we have in Acorn Class both inside and outside. The children are learning so much, getting to know the expectations of Acorn Class such as:

- Knowing the names of the adults (Mrs Lewis, Mrs Douglas, Mrs Pang, Mrs Pedley, Mrs Godfrey) and beginning to know the names of the other children in the group
- Learning how we sit with school legs
- Knowing what to do when they hear the bells (we will practise a fire drill very soon)
- Remembering what to do before and after they have their snack
- Learning the lunchtime routines

Ask your child to show you or tell you about these rules and routines.

Thank you too, to all our parents and carers for helping the children to settle in so well.

Over the next couple of weeks we will look at the children's home books with them and enjoy hearing your children tell us all about their families and what is special to them. **If you haven't managed to hand your child's home book in yet, then please get it back to us as soon as possible.** We will also read the book 'The Gotcha Smile' and all the children will draw a self-portrait making sure they have included their big smiles! These will make a lovely display over in the main school where we get to showcase some of the work the children in Acorn produce.



Phonics

This week, we will introduce daily Phonics sessions. This begins with developing the children's listening skills. In particular this week, we will be listening to and identifying environmental sounds – sounds we might hear in the home. We will talk about how to be a good listener – sitting still and quietly, looking at the person speaking, listening to the person speaking and letting them finish before saying what you want to say.

Why don't you and your child go on a sound hunt around your home to see what sounds can be heard? Can your child explain what they can hear and say what sounds like? For example; taps running, the microwave whirring and beeping, the Hoover, the dog barking etc. **Please share your experiences on Tapestry.**

Maths

This week and next week, we will sing lots of number and counting songs; 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Once I Caught a Fish Alive, 1,2 Buckle My Shoe, Hickory Dickory Dock, 5 Currant Buns and 5 Green Bottles. **Do you know any more number songs? You could sing some together at home and post a short video on Tapestry for us to see in school.**

Next week, we will also be looking at colours; naming common colours and sorting objects in to their colour groups and spotting the odd one out.

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 – Wednesday 8th January

Tapestry

It has been lovely to read some of the observations you have shared on Tapestry of the things your children have been doing at home. Please continue to keep adding observations of any new learning your child has shown, any 'wow' moments, special trips or occasions. It could be that they have created something, mastered a new skill, used a knife and fork correctly, cared for a pet, been kind and caring towards a sibling – anything that has made you, and them, feel proud. If you are having any issues with Tapestry, please do contact me via the school email address.

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 18th Sept and 25th Sept – Special to me (share something that is special to your child)
WB 2nd Oct and 9th Oct – Autumn things
WB 16th Oct – Special teddy/ soft toy

Important Reminders:

- Please dress your child in comfortable clothes that make it easy for them to get to the loo on time. They will get wet and dirty when playing (see photo below), so please do send in many changes. Please also send them in raincoats and wellies on wet days as we do try to get outside. Please do send a change of shoes if sending your child in in wellies.
- Please could you name EVERYTHING that comes in to school (and could be taken off or removed) – hats, bottles, gloves, jumpers, lunchboxes, snack pots etc etc. Children often don't remember what is theirs. This can be done with sharpie as well as labels.
- Please inform the office of any change to pick up arrangements, even if it's a different parent or a grandparent picking up, this just saves confusion at the end of the day.
- Please can we encourage you to say goodbye to your child at the gate and let them come in independently. We find that this causes less upset and children who struggle to separate are usually settled very quickly. We will always share a Tapestry update with you if they have been upset at the gate. Thank you

