



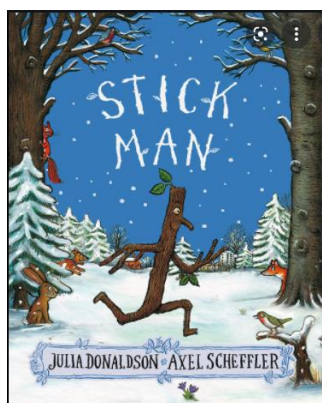
The Children's NEWS



9th January 2024

Happy New Year. We hope that you have all enjoyed a good break full of festive treats. I want to say a big thank you to Mrs Burgess for taking such great care of Acorn Class whilst I was away. I am very happy to be back and it is great to see how much the children have grown and progressed since I saw them in November. I would like to welcome Mrs Katie Godfrey to the Acorn team. Mrs Godfrey is an experienced Early Years Practitioner and I know that she is really looking forward to working with Acorn class. Mrs Godfrey has had a hand over with Mrs Pedley and will be taking on key worker responsibility for those children who were overseen by Mrs Pedley. Please don't hesitate to ask if you have any questions.

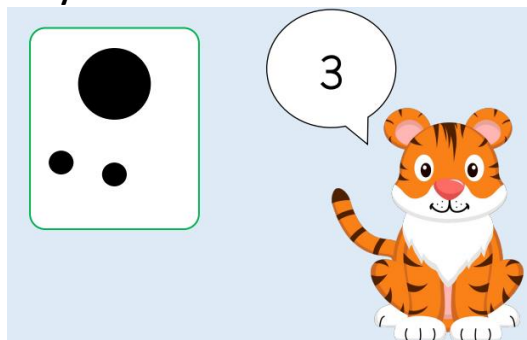
This week, we are looking forward to talking to the children about their favourite Christmas gifts or winter holiday days out. We will be thinking about gratitude and saying thank you. We will be encouraging the children to add more detail in to their speech. For example; 'My toy dog was my favourite present because it is soft and I cuddle him in bed.'



From next week, the children will be working with the book *Stick Man* by Julia Donaldson. We will explore the outdoor classroom and the school field when we go on a stick hunt. While we are out and about, we will look for and talk about signs of winter. We will act out the story of Stickman and create our very own Stickmen and Stick Lady Loves using the sticks we have collected. We will also use the story to help us think about feelings and emotions, talking about Stickman and his family felt at different points in the story. We will link this to our work on 'Kipsy Caterpillar' and will encourage the children to tell us how they are feeling each day. We will also be talking about Stickman's family and use this as a basis for talking about the children's immediate families too. We will talk about how all families are different.

If your child is able to talk about or recall/ recount the story of Stickman, please share this with us on Tapestry.

Early Maths



Over the next couple of weeks in Maths, we will be learning about the number 3. We will sing 3 Blind Mice, read *The Three Little Pigs* and practise quickly showing 3 fingers. We will play lots of games that involve subitising which is being able to look at small group of objects/ dots etc and tell how many are there without having to count them. **Please do share any observations of your child demonstrating their understanding of these areas on Tapestry.**

Phonics

In Phonics we will continue with the theme of *The Three Little Pigs*. We will be using body percussion to make up and copy rhythms, listening carefully to sounds in the story, playing a game called Wolf's Rhyming Party where we will spot words that rhyme and making each other laugh by making lots of different animal sounds! **Please do share any examples of your child hearing words that rhyme on Tapestry.**

Tapestry

If anyone is having difficulty accessing Tapestry or needs any pointers or hints, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Observation focus of the fortnight:

Is your child becoming more independent about meeting their own care needs? Eg; can they wash and dry their own hands, can they brush their teeth (with support from you), talk about why it is important to keep clean? Can they make healthy food and drink choices and talk about which foods and drinks are healthy and which foods are treats?

Show and Tell:

Acorn A & B:

WC 15th / 22nd Jan – **Winter animals** (tell us or show us something you know about an animal in winter. It could be some facts about hibernation or ways an animal protects itself in winter, it could be facts about a polar animal)

WC 29th Jan/5th Feb – **Jobs** – find out and tell us about a job that a family member or friend does.

Please continue to upload all Show and Tell to Tapestry.

Diary Dates:

Half Term – WC 19th February

Back to school – Acorn A 26th Feb, Acorn B 28th Feb

Parent Consultation Evenings and Spring Reports out - Thursday 29th Feb & Tuesday 5th March

World Book Day dress up day (outfit TBC)– Acorn A Monday 4th March, Acorn B Thursday 7th March

Mother's Day Breakfasts (more info to follow) – WC 4th March

End of Term - Thursday 28th March

Notice Board:

- **Please don't forget to apply for your child's school place.** Children born between 1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020 are due to start school in September 2024. You need to apply before 15 January 2024, even if your child already attends a nursery or pre-school on the school site. https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/info/5/school_admissions/496/apply_for_a_new_lower_or_primary_school_place/2
- Please continue to work with your child on putting on their coats by themselves. We will always help them but it is good to start developing their independence. Please also help them to put their gloves on independently. It is a tricky skill but it's good to start practising early on.
- Please don't hesitate to speak to any of us if you have any questions, worries or concerns. We're always here to support you and your child.