



# The Children's NEWS



18<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Last week was Science Week and Acorn Class thoroughly enjoyed being scientists. We did daily experiments linked to changes over time. The children were fascinated by the adult led experiments and made lots of good observations. They particularly enjoyed looking at the rainbow colours produced during the skittles experiment and were interested to see the colours mixing together. The children then made some great suggestions about how an apple might change if we cut it open. One child thought that it might mean that the apple might sink in water if it was cut up so we tried it out and discovered that half an apple still floats! They were fascinated to see the flesh of the apple turn brown over the course of the day. We talked about how it is the oxygen in the air that is making it happen. We then covered one half of an apple in lemon juice and noticed that that stops it going brown. I was very impressed with how carefully the children looked and made observations.

We also did an experiment to see what made an ice cube melt most quickly out of salt, sugar, Mrs Godfrey's hands or a cup of warm water. The children predicted what they thought would melt it most quickly; many thinking it would be the sugar because it is sparkly. They were very excited to watch the 'melting race' and discovered that the warm water melted the ice most quickly followed by Mrs Godfrey's nice warm hands. We then had a discussion about how warmth speeds up melting.

We also put some daffodils in to water coloured blue to illustrate that the flowers take up water. Unfortunately, this change took a very long time and there was only the faintest tinge of blue in the petals by the end of the week. Hopefully, we'll see something more impressive after the weekend. It did give us the opportunity to talk about how some changes are quick and how some changes take a long time.





**Early Maths** We have been learning all about the language of length and weight in class over the last couple of weeks. We have used the vocabulary; longer, taller, shorter, smaller, longest, tallest, shortest and heavier and lighter. We have been encouraging the children to use this vocabulary to compare everyday items. We have heard the children comparing their height, foot length, comparing their height to other objects, comparing the height of water bottles etc. We have used balance scales to compare the weight of the toy animals and set up a post office in class with some scales to compare the heavier and lighter parcels.

**Please encourage your child to use this vocabulary at home and compare the height, length and weight of different objects.**

### **Show and Tell:**

18<sup>th</sup> March - – My Favourite Superhero – Tell us about your favourite superhero. What powers do they have? What do they do to help others? It could be a fictional superhero or a real life superhero.

15<sup>th</sup> April/22<sup>nd</sup> April – Something I did in the Easter holidays. Share something that you enjoyed doing. It could be an outing, eating chocolate eggs with family, a spring walk.....

### **Things to do at home/ Tapestry Focus:**

A few games to help with hearing and saying the sounds in preparation for reading and writing. This link shows how we pronounce some of the different sounds.

<https://vimeo.com/641445921/9382cf6db0>

- Play I spy, using initial sound or orally blending
- Say something wrong I'm putting on my s – o- ck as you put on your coat. Can they correct you? Can they sound talk the correct word?
- Continue a rhyming string .... Let's get your socks, mox, fox, box, locks, socks (they don't have to be real words)

**Tapestry: Don't forget to share with us if you try these.**

### **Diary Dates:**

**Acorn Stay and Play and Easter Egg hunt** - Acorn A Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2.20pm – 3.20pm, Acorn B Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2.20pm- 3.20pm

Come and explore our setting with your child. We will have lots of our favourite activities out and a craft activity too. We will end the afternoon with an Easter Egg hunt. More information to follow.

**End of Term** - Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March

**Summer Term begins** – Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April (Acorn A), Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April (Acorn B). Monday 15<sup>th</sup> is an INSET day – school closed

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May** – Whole Class photos

### **Notice Board:**

- Please make sure that you send your child in with a full change of clothes each day including a jumper or cardigan as they often get soggy at the water table or playing outside. Thank you
- Please could any Acorn clothes that have been leant to children be returned to us? We are running very low on spares.
- We are still looking for donations of trousers, leggings, joggers and socks suitable age 3-4, 4-5 and 5-6 years. If you are having a sort out over Easter, we would very gratefully accept donations of these items. Thank you