



Reception Curriculum Information

Week beginning: Monday 4th February 2019

Dear Parents

This week in assembly, Mrs Harries told the children the story of The Fox and the Stork, with the emphasis on solving the problems that the two animals faced. The children came up with some excellent ideas! This was linked to our visit from the Happy Puzzle Company today, who engaged the children with a range of exciting games and activities, designed to encourage and develop thinking and problem solving skills.

To celebrate National Storytelling Week, each Reception class was invited to join Year 3 pupils in the school library to share some of their favourite picture books. The Reception children listened with enthusiasm as the older pupils read to them. Back in the classroom, we shared another favourite picture book, *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, by Eric Carle, as we began to prepare a musical performance of the story for the Reception Easter Production, which will be staged on Tuesday 26th March.

In their literacy groups, the children have been learning to read and spell words containing new phonemes, as well as carrying out short writing challenges linked to key texts studied over the course of the week.

Our topic this week has been the Chinese New Year. We have enjoyed sharing the story of *The Great Race*, as well as looking at a range of artefacts and photographs from China, to see how the festival is celebrated there and around the world. We tasted noodles and linked our learning back to this half term's overarching theme, which is 'liquids'. We observed how boiling water changed the look and feel of the noodles as we prepared them for eating. The children took part in a range of craft activities linked with Chinese New Year, such as making pigs with a range of materials to represent the Year of the Pig.

In maths, we took the opportunity to improve our number formation by looking at the Chinese numeral system and comparing it with the English numeral system. The children practised forming their numbers correctly and also had a go at writing numbers in Chinese.

Over the coming weekend your child might like to have a look for China on a map and research some facts about the country to share with us in school next week. Special Books will not be sent home this weekend, but we are sure that your children will be excited to share with you all of the work that they have been doing in school when they bring them home next week at the start of the half term break on Friday.

Dates for your diary:

Wednesday 6th March: World Maths Day

Thursday 7th March: World Book Day – dress up as your favourite book character
(please note change of date)

Friday 15th March: Author/illustrator Chloe Inkpen to visit

Tuesday 26th March – 2.15pm: Reception Easter Production in the Read Hall, with coffee for parents after the performance

Thursday 28th March: Parents' evening in the Pre Prep hall from 5.00pm – booking details to follow

We hope you have a lovely weekend with your children.

With our best wishes from Mrs Alexandre, Miss Knightly, Mrs Laing and Mrs Harries

Melanie Harries