



Reception Curriculum Information

Week beginning: Monday 11th February 2019

Dear Parents

In assembly this week, the theme was love, looking ahead to Valentine's Day! Mrs Harries shared the story *You Can Never Run Out of Love* and the children talked about things and people that they love, how they show it and how they know about love. They also worked out that love is a feeling rather than something you can see or hear! Mrs Brown continued the theme of love in her assembly on Valentine's Day itself, in which she talked about the word 'love' as both a noun and a verb, sharing the story *Guess How Much I Love You*. Bird Family meetings focused on relaxation and mindfulness and children had the opportunity to practise some related techniques.

In literacy, we focused on the story *Guess How Much I Love You* by Sam McBratney. The children have been discussing the term 'love' and what it actually means. We spoke about the things we love in our lives and people who are close to us. The children wrote a love message describing their love for their chosen person. We were very impressed by the children's phonetic spellings and descriptive writing. We also practised sound recognition and letter formation.

In maths, the children ordered numbers to 20 in a range of ways and filled in a missing number line. We revisited number formation and counting on from a given number on the carpet. We also introduced ordering an arrangement of numbers starting from the smallest number to the largest e.g. 2, 5, 11, 19.

Our topic this week has been Valentine's Day. The children enjoyed creating an assortment of crafts in their classrooms. On Thursday, we put our science hats on and experimented with changing matter from solid to liquid and liquid to solid. We observed the liquids escaping from a cracked egg; the yolk seemed to be thicker than the white. The children shared a variety of ideas about how we could turn the egg into a solid material and they were enthralled by the magic of the whipped whites being so solid that they could be tipped upside down over Mrs Laing's head without her getting covered in goo! We discovered that baking the mixture made it even more solid and decided that the only way to put it back into a liquid would be to eat it! Next, we slowly melted chocolate until it was a yummy runny liquid. We poured the liquid into moulds and waited until miraculously it transformed back into a solid, ready for us to eat at home. Your child has a bag with a meringue and chocolate in it; please check you are happy with the ingredients listed on the label before allowing your child to enjoy the treats.

Over the holidays

- Your child might like to create a fact sheet about Eric Carle in preparation for our Easter Production at the end of next half term and/or write an imaginative story about a mini beast.

- You may also want to practise recognising and writing numbers to 20 and beyond and/or practise finding one more/one less than a given number.
- If you do get a chance, please visit your local library or get your child to read to you regularly using their school reading books. It is important to read regularly with your child to ensure they remember the taught sounds, including tricky words.
- We would really appreciate your help in supporting your child's cutlery skills over the holiday. We encourage the children to use their knife and fork at lunchtimes, but realise that this is often a developing skill at this point, which needs additional practice! Thank you in advance for your help.

Dates for your diary:

Wednesday 6th March: World Maths Day

Thursday 7th March: World Book Day – dress up as your favourite book character

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 half term break with your children.

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

Melanie Harries