

Seaton House Nursery newsletter.

Week beginning: 19th March 2018

This week in Rabbit class:

This week we have continued to look at change and decay. We talked about what happens to fruit and flowers when they grow old and watched a clip on the IWB that showed what happens to fruit when it decays. The children have continued growing their beans outside and we also have a giant beanstalk growing up the wall in the Nursery, which seems to have numbered leaves and grows each day. We have been working on the letter formation of I, l and t using whiteboards and pens. In our story focus this week, we have read the traditional tale of 'The Little Red Hen' and talked about the main events and characters. We also have been writing about what else the Little Red Hen could make after she has made bread. We have been developing creative and critical thinking skills this week and encouraging the children to explain their thinking. We presented the children with a clear plastic cup and asked them to share what they knew about the cup. The children were asked to think creatively and share ideas about what the cup could become. We had some wonderful suggestions and the children worked well to make their creations in the craft area. They are amazing, and we have displayed them for all to see! We also explored numbers using ladybirds (not real ladybirds!) to partition numbers and complete simple addition problems. On Wednesday, we went on a trip to the woods. On the walk there and back we looked for numbers, shape and print in the environment. Once in the woods we went on a treasure hunt where we looked for different items such as a twig as big as your boot and a leaf as big as your hand. We also looked for signs of spring. The children have been set challenges in the craft area and have been busy making finger puppets for the story of the little Red Hen as well as different flowers. They have also been encouraged to work in pairs to complete a puzzle. We are encouraging the children to become more independent and finish what they have started in preparation for Reception. We also set up an obstacle course to develop gross motor skills and to encourage the children to move in different ways.

Hedgehog class focus:

The children have enjoyed working in the flower shop this week. They have also been playing games and doing puzzles to encourage turn taking and concentration. They have been developing their language skills and have been focusing on the importance of tidying up when they have finished playing. They have enjoyed 'Sticky Kids' and gross motor activities and have also been encouraged to work together to develop their story telling using the small world resources.

Next week:

Next week our chicks arrive and we become Mother Hens for the week! The following sites are useful:

<http://www.livingeggs.co.uk/hatch-a-chick/>

<https://www.egginfo.co.uk/schools/all-about-eggs/5-7/which-animals-lay-eggs>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/clips/zdw9wmn>

We will be using the IWB to look at information about chicks and how we will take care of them when they hatch. We will also be thinking of names for the chicks and if they will be boys or girls.

We will also be encouraging the children to use the small world props to make up stories and they will be working together to develop their story telling skills. We will also have placing and arranging props available for the children to create pictures using different materials. We will be using our observational skills to draw our daffodils that have bloomed beautifully! We will also have ice available outside so the children can explore freezing and melting activities outside. We will continue with our story focus on 'The Little Red Hen' and will create a collage using different textures. We will also be using white boards and large paper to work on the letter formation of U, Y and J.

In Hedgehog class the children will be sharing stories and playing games in small groups. They will be creating bees in their nature garden session and will be busy making Easter nests. They will continue to have carpet sessions that also focus on PSED, Math's and developing their language skills.

Each week we have planned 2 carpet sessions a day which are as follows:

Monday: Language. Stories/ rhymes (Hedgehogs).

Introduction to topic. Language (Rabbits).

Tuesday: 1. Mathematics (3 groups Rabbits and Hedgehogs)

PSED (Hedgehogs) Music (Rabbits)

Wednesday: Phonics and listening skills (4 groups Rabbits and Hedgehogs) Letter formation and library books(Rabbits) Stories, rhymes and library books. (Hedgehogs)

Thursday: Story focus. language (Rabbits)

fine motor and stories using props. (Hedgehogs)

Friday: PSED (Rabbits)

Gross Motor (Hedgehogs)

We also have show and tell every Friday during our second carpet session. milk is now available at welcome time between 8.30 am -8.50 am. Milk will not be available after this time

Please can you check at home for Taraka's Beauty and the Beast book. It is an orange book and it is named.

Please could all Library books be returned each week. Parents/ Grandparents are also welcome to come in to read a story to the children. Please let us know if you would like to do this.

Resources for the craft area.

Please send in if you have any:

- **Bottle tops and corks.**
- **Sweet wrappers and foil.**
- **Cards.**
- **Children's magazines.**

Future dates to note:

28th March: We will be having our Nursery Easter Egg hunt in the Nursery garden. This will also be the day for our Grand opening and Easter hat parade. All children should come in with an Easter bonnet/hat/headband they have made. We will then parade around the garden and will have certificates and stickers for each entry!

29th March: Nursery closes at 12 (collection from library entrance at main school)

Ideas to try at home:

- Play a Math's estimation game: find 3 small boxes (different shapes and sizes). Hide a few beans inside each box and seal it. Encourage your child to shake the box and estimate how many beans are inside. They can write down their guess and then open the box and count the beans. Are their more or fewer than you thought?
- Find some examples of print in the environment and labels you can read. Bring them in to share (food labels etc)
- Go on a nature walk and look for plants and signs of spring.
- Complete a programme on Education City.
- Make a fluffy chick from the craft resources.
- Draw a flower at home thinking about the shape of the flowers and what colours you should use.

On 23rd March we will be supporting **Sport Relief. The children can wear their own clothes for the day and will be taking part in sport related games in the garden. Please bring in your donation of £1. Wristbands will also be available to buy from Tuesday (20th)**

Have a lovely weekend!