

Reception Newsletter - Week beginning: 24.03.2025



Term 4 topic - Transport: How do we get around?

Our story of the week – The Easter Story and Spring

This week we have been looking out for signs of Spring and learning about what happens in the springtime.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development - We continue to look out for each other, work as a team and use our Learning Muscles. We are always reminding each other of our 3 overarching rules; be ready, be safe and be respectful. We know if we adhere to these 3 rules, our school will be a lovely place to be where we have fun, learn amazing things and make friends. Our Learning Muscles help us become resilient and independent learners. In our Jigsaw time this week we talked about germs and how important it is to our health to wash our hands.

Communication and Language - We are a very chatty bunch and love to discuss things in our class on the carpet, and during choosing a job time, inside and outside. We know that if we listen to each other, we may learn something we didn't know! This week we really enjoyed chatting about spring and how the world around us is changing.

Physical Development - During outside play this week, we have enjoyed using the field and the trim trail and enjoyed building and balancing on an obstacle course. We continue to develop our fine motor skills in a variety of ways including, exploring flour, threading activities, handwriting, cutting and using various building and constructing materials. In PE we are practising our ball control skills and we are getting better at throwing, catching, bouncing and rolling a ball to our partner.

Literacy - We have done lots of independent writing this week and we continue to practise our letter formation. We love a clipboard in reception! We have also been busy writing our Mother's Day cards. Some of us have also written a sentence about what we saw on our spring walk. We are really proud of how much progress all the children have made in phonics and the children have settled into their new groups. Please continue to read the ditties and books every day at home.

Mathematics - We continue to use our maths knowledge in class and outside, as we practise counting in 1s, 2s and 10s; recognise our numbers to 20 and beyond; form our numbers correctly; count up to 10 and back down again and saying what is one more and one less than a given number. We have been learning about solid 3D shapes this week. We have learnt the names; cylinder, cube, cuboid, pyramid, cone, sphere, prism. We have learnt lots of new vocabulary to describe the properties of 3D shapes; vertices, straight edges, curved edge, flat faces, curved faces. Ask me what I know!

Understanding the World - Although the weather has fluctuated in temperature over the last couple of weeks, we have certainly started to see and hear lots of signs of spring. The children have been very enthusiastic to share what they have seen walking to and from school each day and when they have been out at the weekends too. The children have seen nests in the trees, bright daffodils, blossom starting to bloom amongst a few leaves, and they have heard bird song too. We wonder what other signs of spring you will see over the next couple of weeks! Some of us went on a spring walk around the school grounds and were very excited to see some minibeasts.

We were even more excited to have a visit from some fire fighters from Faringdon fire station. We loved learning about the fire engine and all the equipment they use in their jobs and we even sat in the cab and squirted water with the hose.

Expressive Arts and Design - Over the past two weeks we have used various techniques in our art and craft activities this week – finger printing, collaging a lolly stick flower, junk modelling – ask us how we did this! We also love to use a variety of materials and resources to make a multitude of things. We are very creative!

Supporting learning at home

- Practise writing numerals to twenty.
- Keep exploring number bonds - different ways to make up numbers.
- Practise letter formation in families: round letters c a o d g q, down letters l t b p k h j m n r u, curly letters e f s, and zig zag letters v w z x
- Make patterns with anything you can find! Try ABAB / ABC / ABBA / ABBC patterns. Have fun as you explore!
- Go on a 3D shape hunt at home. What can you find in the shape of a cylinder....?

Reading Tip

Chat about alternative words when your child is reading to you, or when you are reading to them, e.g. 'big' you might think of 'huge', 'massive' and lots more! Try this with different words and perhaps share some in your reading diaries.

Notes for the start of the Summer Term

- School photos are taking place on Monday 31st March
- School breaks up for Easter on Friday 4th at 1.15pm
- School opens for Term 5 on Tuesday 22nd April
- Remember to wear something yellow on Friday 4th April to celebrate Dandelion Day in the Month of the Military Child.

Have a lovely weekend!