# Weekly Newsletter

## W.B 16.11.26

**This week:**

**English**

Some of us have continued to enjoy listening to the story *Owl Babies*. We have been developing our early writing and mark-making skills through a range of owl-themed activities linked to the story. The children have enjoyed drawing owls, colouring pictures of owls, and having a go at labelling different parts of an owl. These activities have encouraged the children to make meaningful marks, develop their pencil control and begin to give purpose to their writing.

We have also been joining in with the repeated phrases that the owls say in the story, such as, *"I want my mummy!"* The children are becoming increasingly confident at remembering and repeating familiar parts of the text, helping to develop their listening, attention and language skills. It has been lovely to see the children retelling parts of the story and talking about the characters during their play and learning activities.

Some of us have been exploring non-fiction texts and learning about the features that make them different from stories. The children have shown great interest in finding information, looking at photographs and discussing facts. They have especially loved the immersion activities linked to our castle theme. Through role play, creative activities and shared discussions, the children have been building their knowledge and vocabulary about castles, kings, queens and life in the past. This excitement and enthusiasm has helped to prepare them for the next stage of their learning, where they will begin writing about castles and sharing the facts they have discovered.

**Maths**

This week we have been learning about both 2D and 3D shapes. The children have been exploring different shapes and talking about what makes them special. We have been identifying and naming shapes, looking at the number of sides and corners on 2D shapes. Some of us  have exploring the faces, edges and vertices on 3D shapes.

Through practical activities, the children have sorted, matched and built with shapes, helping them to recognise shapes in different sizes and orientations. We have also been looking for shapes in our environment and discussing how 2D and 3D shapes are used in everyday objects.

To support our learning, we have been singing lots of shape songs, which the children have really enjoyed. These songs have helped us to remember the names of different shapes and their properties in a fun and engaging way. The children are becoming increasingly confident in using mathematical language to talk about shapes and describe what they notice.

3D Shapes Song

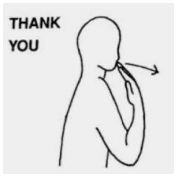
**Topic**

Some of us have continued to explore autumn and the changes we can see outside. We have been observing the different colours of the leaves, noticing changes in the weather, and talking about the signs that tell us it is autumn. The children have enjoyed collecting natural objects and discussing what they can see, hear and feel during this special time of year.

Some of us have also been designing our own castles ready to make next week. The children thought carefully about the features they would like to include, such as towers, drawbridges and flags, and used their ideas to create their own castle plans. We are looking forward to bringing these designs to life and creating our very own castles.

**Other information**

We continue to place a big focus on developing independence. We will still be encouraging the children to practise putting on and taking off their own coats. In addition, we will also be practicing taking off and putting on our shoes. Please could you also practice both at home.

Our Makaton sign focus next week will be thank you. 


**PE will continue to take place on Tuesdays for all Rainbow room children.** Children need a t-shirt, shorts, long leggings or jogging bottoms, trainers and a jumper in their PE bags. PE kit should stay in school for the week in cases of any timetable changes. If you would prefer, please send your child to school ready for P.E. They can remain in this sportswear for the duration of the day.

We continue to focus on developing our listening and movement skills. The children have been practising setting off when they hear the instruction **"Ready, Steady, Go!"** and stopping as soon as they hear the shaker. We have also been learning how to climb safely and jump onto a mat with control and confidence. The children have shown great enthusiasm and are becoming increasingly aware of how to move safely in different ways

**Dates to remember for Reception children:**
**Story teller in school on the 25th November and library visit on the 27th.**

**In addition, please continue to read your child's year group newsletter for any year group specific information you require.**

**Thank you**
**Mrs Swales, Mrs Fieldsend, Miss Levitt and Mrs Delaney**