

EYFS Newsletter January 2022

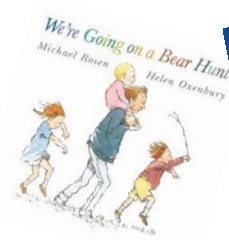


Once upon a time, our amazing Reception children started school....

From our very first day at school, we were immersed in a wide range of quality books and our love of books grows as time goes on. Our journey through books began with fairy tales, through our exciting new "Once Upon a Time" theme, followed by a creative and environmental focus on the well-loved "We're Going on a Bear Hunt". Our current journey is into Space with "Whatever Next!" which is inspiring us to learn more and more about Space each day.

Books are celebrated and shared every day in Reception, with a weekly key focus text, creative book areas, and our popular outdoor Book Nook.

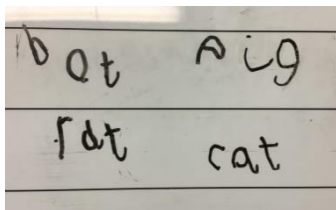
Many of us are also reading avidly at home and our progress in reading is a joy to see!



We Are Writers!

In a few short months of being at school, we quickly became happy, confident writers. A love of writing is at the heart of our Literacy activities and we quickly believe in our abilities. We love our daily visits from "Phonics Bug" and have made rapid progress. Many of us are now attempting to write independently. Mrs Perry and Miss Thomas are so proud of our progress and lovely, positive attitudes!

Look at our progress... from this in October....



...to this in January!



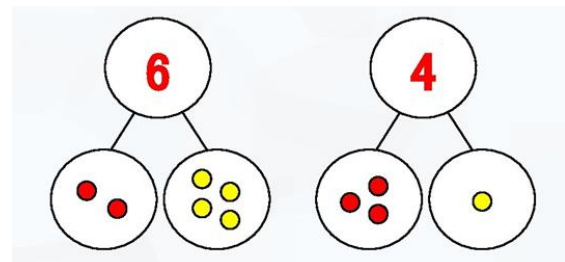
What makes us most proud about our writing in EYFS is that at any time, indoors or out, we can be found happily initiating our own writing-so lovely to see!



We work hard every week "to be the best mathematicians we are able to be". In-depth exploration of each number to ten during the Autumn term has given us a real understanding and we are confident in problem solving, counting and early calculating. Maths is fun and we have developed the confidence to rise to challenges from this very early stage.



Our daily focused sessions in Maths are enhanced by problem solving activities in our play. We are currently enjoying exploring addition and subtraction using the "part/part/whole" method, which we love to demonstrate!





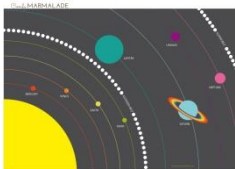
We love to be creative in EYFS! We began our introduction to being artists by exploring lines and now there's no end to our creative ideas and skills! We loved exploring a wide range of media in our Autumn art and we hope our parents enjoyed our Autumn art gallery video.



The colours and textures of our "Bear Hunts" came to life in our collaborative work and we loved working together creatively to contribute to our first Christmas production, "Little Robin Red Vest".



Our journey into Space has introduced us to "The Planets Suite" by Gustav Holst and we have lots of ideas to share about this impressive music. We have been busy being Space artists by creating our own versions of Kandinsky's "Several Circles". Our next exciting development will be to find out how local artist Karen Douglas creates her digital designs and try to create our own. Mrs Douglas, who designed our Shooting Star award products has very kindly made a video to help us to understand her work. We are very grateful for this lovely opportunity.



Our Physical Skills

We thoroughly enjoy our PE sessions and are very focused on developing our Fundamental Movement Skills of running, hopping, jumping, skipping, throwing and catching. We show lots of determination, resilience and enthusiasm!

We also do lots of fun activities to develop these in our outdoor play. We set up obstacle courses, follow our physical skills trail and play lots of physical games.



We are working very hard at our fine motor skills, too and are getting very independent in using pencils, tools and scissors. We enjoy "Pen Disco" when we practise our skills to music.





We love to learn about the world around us. Our “Bear Hunt” theme gave us exciting opportunities to learn all about natural features and the vocabulary we use to talk about them. Lots of us even visited some of these features with our families!

Our journey into Space is taking us further afield and we’re very motivated to learn all about our Solar system and the importance of looking after Planet Earth.



We’re very interested in developing our history skills, too. We learnt all about children’s books in the past which we found really interesting. We’re now excited to be learning all about when people started to visit the moon.

We thoroughly enjoy our outdoor play and make the most of our lovely outdoor area. We’ve really enjoyed planting earlier in the year and we will be excited to see how new plants go in the Spring. We wrap up carefully and explore in all weathers!



From our very first day at school, being special and unique is very much valued and we learn how to be the kindest, most considerate people we can be. We have lots of special times together, from our weekly “Shooting Star” awards of which we are so proud, to celebrating special occasions and festivals together.



So far this year, we have enjoyed celebrating and learning more about the following:

♥ Remembrance Day

♥ Diwali

♥ Bonfire night

♥ Children in Need

♥ Christmas



Our next festival will be Chinese New Year. We’re so happy to have some Reception families for whom this is important and we look forward to celebrating it together.

We hope you have enjoyed reading this newsletter. For weekly updates on our lovely EYFS children, please check or follow us on Twitter @helmshoreschool