

A Learning Letter from Nursery

Welcome to the Nursery

Welcome to our two new children and their families. The children are already busy exploring the Nursery with the expert guidance and support from our 'old' children!

Last term the children were engaged in an exciting project which began with a visit from a fox and a badger captured by our garden night camera. We all became fascinated by the images and were intrigued by the world of light and darkness. We explored the effects light had on various objects using torches and the overhead projector. For some this was not enough and they wanted to capture the image after the torch was switched off. Under the guidance of Laura-Jane they began to draw around their shadows. As the project progressed the children became experts at manipulating materials to create shadow sculptures and cityscapes.

Project

This term the Studio has been turned into a huge drawing space. The children have inspired us all with their keen interest to explore their own ideas through mark-making. They have had the freedom to experiment with the process of drawing, being as expressive or detailed as they like. As the project progresses we hope to incorporate their love of stories and use drawing as a vehicle to express and capture their story telling ideas.



'A drawing is simply a line going for a walk.'
Paul Klee

Writing

For young children 'writing' has two aspects, one being the confidence to put marks on paper and realising that their marks communicate meaning and also about developing fine motor skills which will help them to have a strong pincer grip. It is important to acknowledge all marks children make as communication and where possible to write together making shopping lists and writing notes etc. As the children become more aware of letters then you will begin to see some recognisable shapes in their mark-making and possibly even some letters from their name. It is also important to respect the stage of writing development your child is at as they are all valuable stages which lead to successful and eager writers in the future. To develop fine motor skills activities that require the children to use their thumb and index finger are perfect for children of this age, for example, pegs, bubble popping, squeeze trigger containers etc.

How you can help

At home: Encourage your child to count with you; counting the stairs, plates at tea time and fingers and toes is always good fun!

Look out for: Print in the environment, can you spot any letters from your family names.

Listen to: Music and maybe do some doodling as you listen!

Visit: The Phoenix to talk about the work artists.

Important date!
Mums Saturday is on Saturday 3rd March from 10am – 12pm. This is a special morning where we open the Nursery for the children and their mum or significant female relative to explore the Nursery environment just as they would do on a usual day. We hope you can make it and sadly no siblings please.



Creating a Growth Mindset

Over this term we will be talking to the children about ways they can become great learners. Having been inspired by the research of Carol Dweck we will be exploring the importance of the following learning characteristics;

- Effort
- Resilience
- Self-belief
- Resourcefulness
- Determination
- Aspiration

We believe these characteristics are the invaluable as your children progress on their learning journey, through school and beyond.



Look
how
busy we
have
been!



Can you spot any...

Signs of winter?

Numbers on doors?

Or maybe you have your own favourite 'on the way to school' activity? If so please let us know so we can share the ideas with the children.

