

This term's projects

Our exciting new topic for this term is entitled 'Marvelous Machines'. We have sourced a variety of machines and other artefacts that the children have had the chance to handle and explore. To provoke critical thinking the children have been encouraged to ask questions and develop their own explanations. We shall be experimenting with a variety of materials to make machines of our own.

To enrich our project we have invited dance artist Lizzie Swinford to lead a fun and exciting dance session with each class, inspired by the sounds and motion of imaginary machines.

Mathematics

We have started the term by exploring 2D and 3D shapes. The children are learning to use mathematical language to name and describe common shapes in the environment.

Children will be extending their knowledge of numbers and the number system by recognising and ordering numbers to 20.

This term we are continuing to explore addition and subtraction strategies. Using quantities and objects children will learn to add by counting on. They will also learn how to subtract by counting back. It is important that they develop mathematical skills through practical problem solving. This will include finding ways to record our calculations using pictures and numbers.



Literacy

This term we have begun our literacy work by learning the story of 'No Bot – the Robot with no Bottom' which is an amusing story about an unfortunate little robot that searches for his lost bottom!

Learning to recite and retell stories gives the children inspiration for their writing.

We will continue to develop our phonic knowledge, applying this to both reading and writing. Every week there is a writing challenge where children are encouraged to use their phonic skills to write or mark-make independently.

We shall celebrate World Book Day on Thursday 1st March – news of some exciting activities coming soon!



How you can help

At home:

Get your child writing!

Encourage them to write independently using their growing phonic skills. They could write shopping lists, cards, post-its, notes, messages, letters, little books and postcards – anything at all. It's all great practice.

Go to:

www.phonicsplay.co.uk

where you will find a range of free interactive phonics games.

Visit:

Stop to look and talk about machines on building sites or in other places.

Look out for:

Take closer look at machines that are in everyday use in your own home, garden or garage. What do they do? How do they work?

PLAY
is the highest form of
research

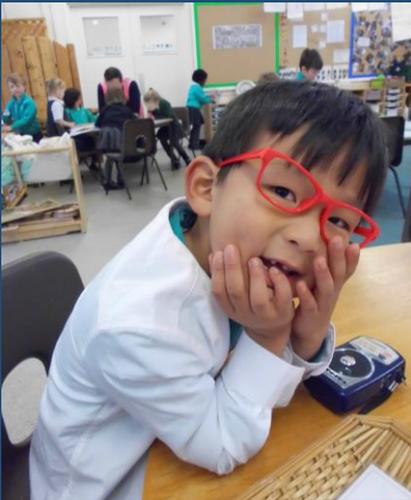
Albert Einstein

Last term

Time flies when you are having fun! It seems a long time since the children first came to school and everything was strange and new. Now they are thriving and learning new things every day.

Highlights from the autumn term were:

- Receiving a first Guided Reading book and beginning to learn to read
- The inspirational performance of 'Apple John' by Theatre Alibi
- Apple crumble for shared snack.



Meet our mindset friends

We are successful learners because, like our mindset friends, we keep on trying and we don't give up!

I try my best and work hard!
we make a big effort like Eddie the elephant

I don't give up until the job is done!
we are determined like Digger the dog

I can do anything I put my mind to!
we have self belief like Sylvie the squirrel

I ask myself how, what, why and who?
we are resourceful like Raj the raven

If it doesn't work or I get it wrong, I try again!
we are resilient like Reema the rabbit

I can be anything I want to be!
we have aspiration like Albert the ape

Inspire

~

Discover

~

Succeed

