

THE EARLY YEARS ECHO

DISCOVERING OUR WORLD ONE DAY AT A TIME

The Solar System

The children have enjoyed using the book “Here We Are” to further investigate “Space” which has been an extremely popular line of enquiry with the children. They have enjoyed using the internet to watch a video all about the planets and have created their very own interpretation of the solar system using black paper and pastels. The children were able to experiment with colour mixing by rubbing the pastels together to create the different properties of the planet.

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“Before you tap and click... You need to stop and think... And TELL someone!”

Internet Safety Week 7th February 2022 - 11th February 2022

The children in Early Years use the internet daily to support their learning both in school and at home. The resource supplies valuable information for research into their interests, photographs and videos for provocation, and acts as stimulus for independent, explorative play. Therefore, being safe online is always high priority with our children to ensure they have the knowledge and understanding of appropriateness and how to keep themselves safe in school and at home. The focus of Family Group discussions this week has been based around how the internet can be used to communicate. The children have spoken about technology and how it can be a useful form of communication. The children have also shared ideas about how to communicate safely online and what to do if someone they don't know tries to contact them online.



READ ALL ABOUT IT!

Chinese New Year!

Tuesday 1 February marked the Lunar New Year for 2022 – celebrated in China, East Asia and across the world.

The celebrations see people feast with relatives, watch parades and pray for good fortune in the year ahead.

What happens in the festival?

Celebrations begin with the rising of the second new moon after the winter solstice (21 December).

Also known as the Spring Festival, New Year festivities usher out the old year and are meant to bring luck and prosperity in the new one.

There are family banquets and outdoor spectacles featuring firecrackers, fireworks and often dancing dragons. The major celebrations are held on New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. People decorate their houses with red for good luck and children are given money in bright red envelopes

The children in EYFS have loved learning about the story of the Chinese Zodiac and why animals are used to represent different years. The children used the internet to watch videos about Chinese New Year and what these celebrations look like to Asian families. The children then enjoyed having their own celebrations by tasting foods from a Chinese inspired banquet, making red lanterns and envelopes, creating observational drawings of a tiger mascot and dancing along to some traditional music.



Valentine’s Day

Following on from the children’s interest in the artist Matisse, a provocation of different sized hearts where set out in the drawing area of the Snug. Here the children showed off their creativity in using paper, card, cellophane, and tissue paper to make their very own collage heart. Some of the children also enjoyed writing their own messages to those who they cared about.

This week within the studio the children have been learning all about two special artists, Henri Matisse who was famous for the use of colours and Piet Mondrian who was famous for his abstract paintings from squares and rectangles.

Piet Mondrian’s artwork has been set out as a provocation within the Atelier this week and has naturally sparked discussions surrounding the techniques he has used to create his work. The children decided to attempt some of the techniques seen within Mondrian’s artwork in order to create their own pieces. The children used rulers and black pens to create the shapes they could see within the artwork, before using oil pastels to give their work colour. The children discussed the colours they could see within the artwork, which led to them learning about and developing their understanding of primary colours – colours that cannot be made by mixing other colours together.

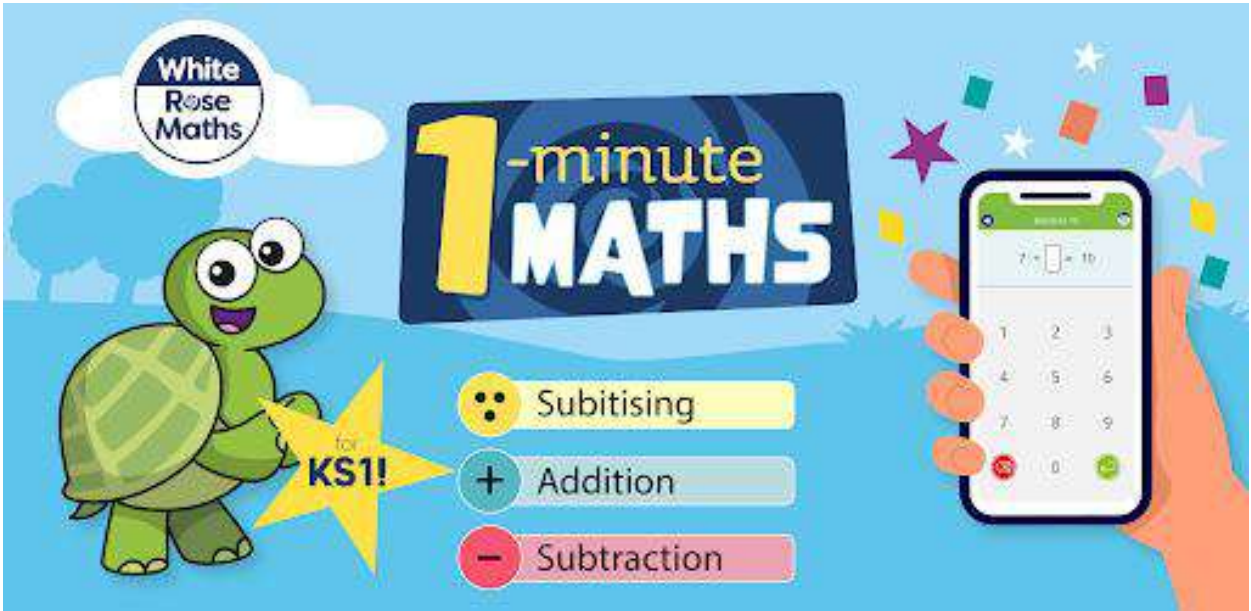
A provocation of images of the work of Matisse was set out in the Snug and a range of coloured card lead to the children creating their own collages this week. The children were able to hone their ability to use one-handed tools, drawing inspiration from the shapes and colours that they could see. The children studied the famous artworks, identifying shapes that they recognised and some they didn’t. It was great to hear the children using descriptive language to



Your trash is our treasure!
Please think of us before you chose the bin!

We are looking for the following items to enhance our provision.

- Old white t-shirts or bed sheets
- Lose parts i.e. nuts, bolts, screws and nails
 - Metal cans
 - Dolls/Baby Clothes
- Old Musical instruments
- Old Kitchen Utensils
 - Old Cutlery
 - Cable Reels
 - Tyres



ATTENTION NURSERY & RECEPTION PARENTS/CARERS

We are thrilled to inform you about a brand-new app, called 1-Minute Maths, that has been launched by White Rose Maths this month! The app is designed to help children build a greater number confidence and fluency and is suitable for children of Nursery and Reception age. The app allows your child to practice their knowledge and understanding of subitising, addition and subtraction, which they have developed at school, at home in engaging, one-minute chunks!

Nursery children should attempt to engage in the challenges set within the ‘Subitising’ section.

Reception children should attempt to engage in the challenges set within the ‘Subitising’, ‘Addition’ and ‘Subtraction’ sections.

The challenges your child is able to attempt to engage in on the app will increase as they continue to develop their Mathematical knowledge and understanding throughout the remainder of the school year.

This app can be downloaded onto your iPad, tablet or kindle by following the link below:

<https://whiterosemaths.com/resources/1-minute-maths>

Dear parents and carers

I am writing to you with the sad new that Mrs Briggs is leaving us on Friday. We have been so lucky to have had Mrs Briggs in our Early Years family since September and we would like to wish her the best of luck as she returns to her career in fashion. Mrs Briggs has been an asset to the team and will be greatly missed by all.

Mrs Dawson - who is already part of our school family - will be joining the Early Years Team after half term. She has been visiting early years over the past few weeks and has already begun to establish wonderful relationships with our children. Mrs Dawson is looking forward to welcoming you on the door on Monday 28th February and sharing with you all of the amazing things your children have been learning during open week.

Watch this space for further information regarding this!

We hope you have a wonderful half term making memories with your children.

Thank you for your continued support,
Mrs Wheelam-Tate and the EYFS Team.

Dates to remember

Monday 28th February~ School Re-opens

Thursday 3rd March~ World Book Day

(Children are encouraged to dress up as their favourite story character.)

W/c 14th March ~ Book Fair

Wednesday 23rd March and Thursday 24th March ~ Parents Evening