

THE EARLY YEARS ECHO

DISCOVERING OUR WORLD ONE DAY AT A TIME

February 2023

We Live In A World We Ourselves Create

Children have enjoyed exploring the area around them, using positional language to identify where one building is in relation to another. The children used resources such as junk modelling and wooden blocks to create familiar buildings such as school, Morrison's and St. Matthew's Church. By creating these sculptures, children were able to explore mathematical concepts such as shape and size. The children looked at aerial views of our school, and were encouraged children to comment on what they notice, recognising buildings, open space, roads and other simple features. The children had a lot of fun pointing out their own house to their peers.

"You need to go down the road and then around the roundabout to get to school." Georgia

"I drive past Morrisons to get to school." Zara

"Morrisons is around the corner." Isla



Goodbye Winter, So Long Snow, It's Time To Watch The Flowers Grow!



The children have shown an interest in growth and the colours that are beginning to appear in the world around them, due to seasonal change. Children were eager to discuss these changes and used books to find out more information around the growth of plants. Some real and artificial flowers were added to the provision for investigation purposes. The children were very keen to create their own version of 'beautiful' flowers and were able to identify and recreate some of their main features. The children used their new scientific vocabulary to name parts of their flowers with some children able to write them as labels too.

"Some flowers are closed." Freya

"The petals have different colours." Harry

"The stem is long and green." Lucy

READ ALL ABOUT IT!

OUR LAST HALF TERM

EMERGING INTERESTS

WHAT WE ARE LEARNING ABOUT

Powerful, curious, confident, resilient, competent

EXCUSE THE MESS, WE
ARE BUSY BAKING
MEMORIES

Baking has continued to be a common interest within the ‘snug’ this half term. The children have enjoyed exploring the internet and cook books to find a range of recipes that interested them.

Whilst reading through the cook book, Aspen noticed a picture of blueberry muffins.

“Miss Johnston, we have some blueberries in the fridge off when we made pancakes. Can we make some muffins?” Aspen

“What other ingredients do we need?” Miss Johnston

The children then applied their phonetic knowledge and decoded the words, to find out the ingredients they needed. We came to the conclusion that we had all of the ingredients required and gathered them all together.

“I can crack eggs, I do it all the time.” Harper

I encouraged the children to read through the method and weigh out each ingredient accurately.

“We need to get the scales out.” Edie

The girls identified the numerals on the scales and enjoyed weighing the ingredients.

“Stop, it’s on the right number.” Norma-Rose

The girls were able to add the ingredients and follow the steps due to their prior knowledge of baking.

Working cooperatively, they shared the ingredients and supported each other with the next steps.

“They smell delicious.” Aspen

“I think they are going to be lovely.” Harper

“Shall we cut them blueberries up smaller, they can’t be too big.” Edie

I modelled how to use a knife safely and encouraged the girls to cut the blueberries independently.

It was finally time to put our mixture into cupcake cases and place them into the oven.

They counted the cupcake cases with 1:1 correspondence and we discussed the oven safety rules.

We waited for 30 minutes and they were looking delicious, the girls were so eager to taste the muffins.



BEAUTIFUL THINGS
COME TOGETHER ONE
STITCH AT A TIME.

Within the studio this week, children have been keen to challenge themselves to learn to sew.

They began by using iPads as a support; watching YouTube videos on ‘how to stitch.’ They found a video on a ‘running stitch’. Miss Hair supported the children with the needles and we spoke about safety and how to handle them.

Using fine motor skills, most children were able to thread their own needles and began on their stitching.

“You have to go all the way through and then again to make a line.”
Felicity

“I can do it! I have made lots of lines, can you help me pull it through though, it is tricky.” Rose

“Can you help me? I can’t get it through, oh I did it! I made the line! Look!” Jacob

Chinese New Year!

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 rabbit and dancing along to some traditional music.

“The chopsticks were tricky but fun.”
Theo

“I built the Great Wall of China with the blocks.” Harley-Jay

“We wore red for Chinese New Year. Red is a symbol of good luck.” Abigail

“Chinese New Year is special because it’s a new beginning.” Georgia



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday 2nd March — World Book Day Thursday
9th March — PTFA Spring Disco (Reception)
W/C 13th March — Book Fair
Friday 31st March — School closes for Easter
Monday 17th April — School reopens

Library

The children have really enjoyed spending time in our library. They have loved having the independence of choosing their own books and exploring a range of genres

Your child will be accessing the library on the days listed below, please ensure their sharing books are back in their book bag on these days.

Monday – Mrs Whelam-Tate
Tuesday- Mrs Dawson
Thursday- Miss Ahmed

YOUR TRASH COULD BE OUR TREASURE!

We are on the look out for the following items....

- Nuts/bolts
- Small world animals/toys
- Wooden utensils
- Home décor items
- Old clothing items (hats, jewelry, waistcoats, fur coats, shoes)
- Baby clothing/doll clothing
- Wooden dolls furniture (high chair)

