

Foundation Stage 2- Newsletter 7

All about Environments

Over the past two weeks, our Play Project has centred around 'environment' and recently, natural environment. The children have generated lots of ideas about all the environments they know- they came up with so many wonderful ideas from the school to Planet Earth itself! They then thought about the environments that are featured in our Drawing Club story, 'Mr Gumpy's Outing' by John Burningham. Prompted by this, we have made origami boats and maps to show the route he took along the river.

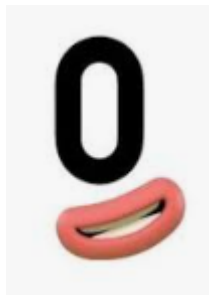


This term, we are also hoping to provide the children with more opportunities for independent cooking and food preparation. With this in mind, we have showed them how to wash up in the correct sequence! Some of the children then put what they had learned into action by washing and drying some of the plates and cutlery from lunchtime. As you can imagine, more practise of this skill would be very useful, so please feel free to provide more opportunities at home!!!



Maths

This week, the children have been practising getting quicker at subitising or representing a given number using their fingers - speed is the name of the game! We have also played a variety of games aimed at encouraging them to use the language of more than, less than and equal to. As part of this, we have also looked at what is meant by 'zero'. Please do continue to practise counting forwards and back with your child at home.



Phonics

Since we returned in January, we have focussed on recapping the sounds we have learnt so far as well as learning new ones – j, v and w. We have focused much of our attention on providing lots of opportunities for the children to blend three sounds together to read simple words. As the children learn an increasing number of sounds, we often find that some will reach a stage where they find it tricky to blend them together. Please do not worry, if your child is finding blending difficult now that they have a larger bank of sounds to use. Rest assured we are all working together to help each and every one of them get there!

It's good to be back!

It has been wonderful to see the children so pleased to see each other after the long Christmas holiday. The garden, despite the cold weather, has been a real hive of social interaction, fun and chatter! The children have particularly enjoyed the frost and the copious amounts of ice it has provided them with. Some of the children have pretended to be 'Elsa' from Frozen or have enjoyed chipping away at the ice. It's been lovely to watch the children play and hear lots of lovely rich language being used to describe what they can see and feel.



This week's 'Talking Tips'

- Can you tell me what ice feels like?
- I wonder what would happen to ice if it got warmer
 - Can you describe a natural environment?
 - What does 'zero' mean?

Thank you for all the support you have given in helping your children settle happily back into school.

Wishing you all a wonderful and relaxing weekend

The FS2 Team x

