

Early Years Foundation Stage Newsletter 20th November 2020

Nursery

This week in Donaldson class we have continued our learning on colours and pattern. At the start of the week we read *Elmer* by David McKee. After reading the story, a letter was delivered to Donaldson Class from Elmer asking for the children's help in decorating some of his friends for Elmer Day celebrations – they enjoyed designing and creating their own patterned elephants using a range of different media and materials. This led to a discussion about differences and how everyone in the world is different from everyone else – although we have similarities to others in terms of how we look or our likes and dislikes, we are all different and unique (like Elmer), and being unique is good. We are all different, but we are all special and unique in our own way. In Maths, we investigated our class' favourite colours and explored recording and analyzing our findings. We discovered that the most popular colour in Donaldson class is blue. In Phonics, we have been playing with words, exploring patterns and syllables. Other activities the children have particularly enjoyed this week include exploring multi-coloured water beads, attempting to make Elmer out of Multilink cubes; matching numbered elephants to the Numicon shapes and building towers out of Unifix cubes to represent each number; cleaning the elephants who've been in the mud bath; exploring colour mixing; exploring the cable wheel roads and cars; using puppets and character masks to act out the story of Elmer.



Reception

This week in Reception we have been reading the Three Little Pigs and have really enjoyed retelling it in our own words and with small world characters. We have talked about our homes and what they are like. The children all agreed they would not be keen to live in a straw house! We have also been discussing different emotions and feelings, linking them to the Three Little Pigs story. We really loved The Colour Monster story and discussed our own feelings this week. In Maths we have been looking at all aspects of the number four. We have been on number hunts, represented it in different ways, looked at the composition of the number as well as practising our counting and number recognition skills. We have learnt the sounds, f, ff, l and ll in phonics and continue to work on our blending skills to read simple words. We are making some good progress with our reading and have been enjoying some of the games on Phonics Play (<https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/>). These may be something your child would enjoy practicing at home and could be used as one of your daily reading sessions (please remember to record each time you read together at home). At the moment, we are working on Phase two so these games would be most appropriate. We finished the week off with a fab morning making and testing paper aeroplanes after being inspired by a helicopter in the sky!

