

## Early Years Foundation Stage Newsletter 21<sup>st</sup> May 202

### Nursery

We've had a great week in nursery this week and have loved having Mrs Gilbert with us! All activities this week have been based around the much-loved tale of *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle. The children enjoyed relating the story to their experiences of our own class caterpillars. Just some of the activities the children have enjoyed this week linked directly to the story include, creating their own caterpillar art out of buttons; learning the song *There was a tiny caterpillar on a leaf* and actions to perform alongside it; orally retelling the story using props for support; using the story to help recall the days of the week in the order; making playdough caterpillars and playing *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* version of Kim's Game. In Phonics, the younger children have focussed on tuning into instrumental sounds – they thoroughly enjoyed playing *Which instrument?* where one child played an instrument for the others to identify which had been played, whilst the older children had fun exploring the different sounds that can be made with their voices and discussing the features of each sound i.e., was it a long or a short sound / loud or quiet? Did it change from low to high? Etc. In Maths, the older nursery children have revisited pattern and created their very own repeating pattern caterpillars, whilst the younger children have been practising counting accurately to 5. Thank you for all the baby photos we have received so far. We will be using them next week as stimulus for discussion on how we have all grown and developed since we were babies. You can bring photos into school, upload them to Tapestry or email them directly to me ([ichavaudret-rainfray@templegroveacademy.com](mailto:ichavaudret-rainfray@templegroveacademy.com)). Thank you.



### Reception

Reception have had a fantastic time at Forest School this week, all be it a little muddy and wet! The children have listened well and enjoyed exploring the forest area and activities available. The hammock and rope swings are very popular. They enjoyed finding sticks and using them to make swords and Stickmen, using their fingers to tie the knots they needed. Our beanstalks have shot right up and we are waiting to plant them outdoors when they are big enough. The sunflowers we planted are finally starting to grow, and the children are enjoying caring for them all. In Maths this week we have been revisiting our Number Bonds of ten, using Numicon, Ten Frames and the Part-Whole Model to help us. In Phonics we have revisited the sounds or, oi, ur and ow. We are really starting to apply these phase three sounds in our writing. We are working on writing simple sentences independently and spelling our tricky words correctly. The children have been working hard each morning when they arrive at school and we are really starting to see some great improvements here. Writing is tricky, but you are doing a fantatstic job Reception. Keep up the hard work! Please try to listen to your child read every night for ten minutes and record in their school diary when you do. This will really help your child to develop their fluency and pace when reading, as well allow them to practice and apply their phonics knowledge.

