

Nursery

Welcome back – we hope you all had a lovely break. The children returned from the half term break beautifully calm, rested, happy, and raring to go! Our topic this term is Let's Celebrate - we will be learning about different celebrations, festivals, colours and pattern. This week, to start the topic off, we focussed on Halloween and shared the picture books *Meg and Mog* by Helen Nicoll and Jan Pieńkowski, and *Room on the Broom* by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler. We had lots of fun in our Witches and Wizards workshop - making potions, exploring pumpkins, and practising our fine motor and pre-writing skills. We talked about our experiences of Bonfire Night and learnt about Guy Fawkes and discussed the need for safety around bonfires and fireworks. In maths, we have been practising number recognition and counting accurately to 5 and exploring the concept of more than. In phonics, we have focused on tuning into instrumental sounds and had great fun exploring instruments and guessing which one was being played. Other activities the children have enjoyed this week include creating their own firework paintings; exploring their name puzzles, taking on different character roles using props linked to the story of *Room on the Broom*, the small world farm and musical instruments. It's been an action packed and fun first week of Term 2!



Reception

Welcome back! We have had a jam-packed week full of lots of fun and spooky activities. This half term our topic is light and dark. We will also be learning a lot about the different festivals that happen during this half term. This week we were focusing on Halloween. During our literacy lesson, *The Very Busy Spider* spun a web in our classroom. We have been learning the story and adding in some actions of our own. During maths we have been focusing on '1 less/takeaway/fewer'. We have found out that when we take away our numbers get smaller. To really understand this concept, we are creating a 'witches kitchen' where we will have to follow the recipe of 1 less to make our witchy soup. The children are so excited for some of the disgusting ingredients they will have to use!!

We are still practicing our single sounds in phonics, including segmenting, and blending (reading) and writing. We had an initial sound pumpkin game where the children had to match the image to the correct initial sound. The children were very good at this game.

We have also had lots of exploring and experimenting in the garden. Our science experiment for the week was 'potions'. The children observed the effects bicarbonate soda, vinegar and food colour made. They had so much fun.

Another busy week in Jeffers class. Next week is all about fireworks!!

