

## Nursery

It has been lovely to welcome the Nursery children back into school after the Christmas break - along with a few new faces. They have settled back in fantastically and have it has been great to see them back in their routine and interacting with their friends – old and new.

This week we have focused on winter. We started the week by sharing the beautifully illustrated book *Jack Frost* by Kazuno Kohara. After reading, we discussed the illustrations and the use of cool colours to depict winter and used the text as a stimulus to create our very own visual representations of winter. On Wednesday we participated in Forest School – the children had great fun making mud pies, painting with mud, making their own stick men and painting Father Christmas sticks. In maths we have been practising counting and recognising numerals. The children enjoyed throwing 'snowballs' into a basket and counting how many snowballs they had managed to get in the basket and finding the corresponding numeral on our number line. In phonics we have started learning about Letterland and were introduced to the first character *Annie Apple* who makes the 'a' sound – the children enjoyed apple printing and practising writing 'a' whilst saying the sound. The children continue to work on developing their pencil control and grip and name writing.

Other activities the children have particularly enjoyed this week include exploring snow dough; using tweezers to add the correct number of snowballs (white Pom-Poms) to numbered mittens; exploring and freezing the frozen arctic animals from the ice; making igloos out of various different small and large construction i.e. sugar cubes, Duplo and large crates; using the diggers to clear the snow (cotton-wool balls), and going for a walk around the school grounds looking at changes in the environment.



## Reception

Hello and welcome back! Happy 2022.

I hope you all had a lovely Christmas and New year and that you are all ready to start 2022 off with a bang!

Our new topic for this half term is 'Terrific Tales' and we have kick started the new term with the story of Little Red Riding Hood. We have been reading the story and discussing the plot and characters. We have also been role-playing Little Red Riding Hood at Grandma's house, which has been fun.

In maths we have been learning all about number bonds to 5 and the different ways to make 5.

During our phonics sessions we have been learning our Phase 3 sounds, but next week we have a new scheme that we are introducing called Letterland. We will still be following the same progression, but we will be meeting some new sound characters, which will be exciting.

The children had Forest School on Wednesday and they loved it. Lots of climbing trees and mud kitchen recipes.

It has been great seeing all the children back in their learning environment and with their friends.

Just a reminder: PE sessions will start from next Wednesday. Children need to come in their labelled PE kit please and can we ask that you still read with your child everyday for a minimum of 10 minutes and record this in their diary. Could we also ask that you bring your child's book in on the day that it is changed, so that we can provide them with a new book. Thank you for your continued support 😊