

Early Years Foundation Stage Newsletter 04th February 2022

Nursery

This week we have explored Lunar New Year. We read the beautifully illustrated text - *The Great Race: The Story of the Chinese Zodiac* by Christopher Corr. After reading we created a scene setter for the story which they children loved exploring – attempting to recall the order in which the animals crossed the river. The children learnt that this year is the year of the Tiger and discovered which zodiac animal they were – either a Rooster or Dog, they enjoyed creating their very own zodiac animal masks. We learnt about how people prepare for and celebrate the Lunar New Year and enjoyed watching a dragon dance. We created our own large-scale dragon using various materials and had lots of fun performing our own dragon dance. In maths, we have explored subitising to at least 3 - instantly recognising the number of objects in a small group, without counting.

In phonics, we reviewed the sounds *Annie Apple*, *Bouncy Ben* and *Clever Cat*, and were introduced to the next character in our Letterland journey – *Dippy Duck* who makes a ‘d’ sound. The children are really enjoying their Letterland journey are all keen to write each letter. We are continuing to work on name recognition. The children enjoyed creating their own glitter name cards. The next Forest School will take place on Tuesday 8th February. Please ensure that your child is appropriately dressed.



Reception

We have had a fun packed week this week. We have been learning and celebrating Lunar New Year. We read the story of the Great Race and watched a clip on how people celebrate Lunar New Year, looking at the similarities and differences of how New Year is celebrated in England.

In maths, we have been learning our number bonds to 10. We have had a lot of hands-on learning, using cubes and blocks to support us in recalling all the number bonds to 10. It's been tricky, but we are getting there!

In literacy, we have carried on with the story of Hansel and Gretel. We changed the story to make it our own and we had a go at designing and labelling our very own sweetie house, using our phonic knowledge to help us write words.

We have also been exploring other traditional tales within our free play. We have been making playdough trolls, which will help us to develop our fine motor skills and we have been re-telling stories such as Goldilocks and the Three Bears using our small world play.

This is a reminder that all children need to bring in their reading book in to be changed on their reading day and the next Forest School will take place on Tuesday 8th February.

