

Early Years Foundation Stage Newsletter 11th February 2022

## Nursery

This week we have focussed on the traditional tale of *The Three Billy Goats Gruff*. After reading several versions and discussing the similarities and differences, we worked together as a class group to sequence pictures from the tale in order of what happened first, next, then, finally etc. After which we used these to re-tell the story in our own words using key vocabulary and repeated refrains. We also enjoy using musical instrument to make the tale more exciting by creating sound effects for each of the main characters – considering their size and how this would impact on the way they move and what kind of sound their movements would make. The children have enjoyed lots of other activities linked to the tale including exploring the small world scene setter and taking on the role of each character, considering what their troll would look like and painting it, painting bridges, looking at pictures of different types of real bridges and building them, making trolls out of playdough. On Tuesday we all had great fun exploring in Forest School. Hannah, our Forest School teacher read us the story of *Percy the Park Keeper* having to share his bed with all the cold animals that came to his house to get warm and told us that she had brought some of her own toy animals for us to play with. She suggested that we could help find them or make them their own homes. Some of us worked together build dens, whilst others climbed trees and played in the hammock. We also enjoyed playing on the different swings and having snack and chat outdoors.

In maths, we have explored size and discussed different words we could use to suggest differentiate between the sizes of objects i.e. large, big, ginormous, medium, middle-sized, small, little, tiny, bigger, biggest, smaller. In phonics, we reviewed the sounds we have learnt so far and were introduced to the next character in our Letterland journey – *Eddy Elephant* who makes an ‘e’ sound. We’ve had lots of fun exploring traditional tales this term – the weeks have flown by. We wish you a very happy and restful half-term break and look forward to the children’s return on the 21<sup>st</sup> February.



## Reception

This week we have been learning all about mental health and growing. We read the book *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* and looked at how the caterpillar transformed into a beautiful butterfly. We then drew self-portraits and wrote about all the amazing things we couldn’t do when we were young, but we can do now. In literacy, we have been learning and re-writing the story of Hansel and Gretel. We loved changing it and creating our own endings. In maths, we have learnt all about positional language. A lot of our sessions have been in the playground, listening to instructions and understanding the different language connected with positional language. We even got to explore the Bee-Bots and programme them to move in different ways. On Tuesday we had Forest School, which was so much fun! We spent the time in the woods, climbing trees, playing in the mud kitchen, and creating artwork on the trees. Please keep reading with your children at home, it is really helping, and we hope you have a lovely, well rested half term!

