

## **Week 4 Reception Learning Blog**

w/b Monday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2022

This week has been another very busy week, where we have packed in lots of learning. Our classroom is slowly transforming to support our new skills and knowledge as we add new items regularly. Come and take a look at what we have been up to...

### **Monday 26<sup>th</sup> September:**

We have established an Autumn nature table showcasing our collections. We have conkers, pine cones, berries, leaves and acorns. We learnt that acorns are poisonous and come from oak trees. We also learnt that conkers come from horse chestnut trees and that there is one growing in the grounds of the Cricket Club in Bledlow Ridge.

We discovered that pine cones help us predict the weather and now use one every day to complete our calendar activity in the morning. When the pine cone is closed, it signifies rain but, when the pine cone is open, the weather will be fine. To keep ourselves safe, we remember "no pick no lick" when we have been handling the items at the nature table and of course, we wash our hands.

We also have a small collection of leaves on the nature table. They are beautiful colours, ranging from vibrant green to orangy-gold, dark crimson-red and brown. We learnt that the darker the leaf colour, the older the leaf is. Our word of the day was **deciduous**, and we used it to describe our leaves because they have fallen from the trees in preparation for winter. We will continue to practice this word throughout the week.

Our nursery rhyme this week is *Jack and Jill*. If you would like to sing along with us, please click on the link below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gb2Qxh0vPC4>

### **Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September:**

We are getting very confident at telling the story of *The Little Red Hen* using the story map and puppets when we are Learning through Play.

Today we began to develop the new skill of 'boxing up' during our Talk 4 Writing session. So far, we have been using a story map to tell the story of *The Little Red Hen*. Now, we are learning to turn what we say into written sentences through shared writing. We have learnt that each new idea has its own special box.

### **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> September:**

This morning, we had a PE session, where we were learning the skills of jumping, climbing and balancing. We also used the equipment and practiced our newfound skills on the mats, the box and the balance beam.

This afternoon, we learnt how to prepare and roll out play dough for cutting. First, we learnt that we needed to manipulate the play dough by squashing and squeezing it in our hands to make it warm and soft, so that it was easier to work with. Next, we used the palm of our hands to roll the play dough into a ball and then applied pressure on top by pressing it down to flatten it. After that, we used a rolling pin and gently pressed the top as we rolled it forwards and backwards to make a flat surface for our cutting equipment.

We revisited our cutting skills from last week and reminded ourselves that we hold the handle and guide the blade of our knife across the play dough. We also used cutters, which we pressed down into the play dough whilst we removed the excess to reveal a delicious cookie.

#### **Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> September:**

It was another busy day today.

We enjoyed making up our own games and were testing out our athletic prowess! We were practising our jumping skills and devised a game where we needed to jump from the top step onto the safety flooring. We made chalk marks by using a line or the first letter of our names to indicate where we had landed. Lots of excellent turn taking, listening skills and negotiating was in evidence.

We continued to take ownership of our classroom to support us to develop skills and knowledge. We have moved The Reading Den into the corner, where it is much more peaceful and our Small World Area is now a little bigger and has a table and chairs in it, so we can comfortably use our resources during our Learning through Play time.

The Play Dough area has seen delicious creations being produced whilst we continue to practice and refine our rolling out skills. Today, we made a range of cookies and fruit pies for one.

Our Autumn nature table continues to take shape and we have added some crunchy sycamore leaves and fluttering seeds to our collection.

#### **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September:**

We were particularly excited today, as we went on another nature walk. This time, we were looking for Autumn leaves and sticks to add to our collection. We had lots of fun looking at the similarities and differences.

We also had some wonderful news today. We learnt that Mrs Butler is going to have a baby! We wish Mr and Mrs Butler many congratulations on their special journey.

Well done to our Stars of the Week this week:

- ❖ Teddy Tomaselli, for showing great enthusiasm when he talks about his learning.
- ❖ Yusuf Ahmed, for exploring the Reception classroom and in particular, taking an interest in the Small World activities for the first time.

All our children have worked incredibly hard this week and we should all be very proud of them.

Have a lovely weekend!

With every best wish,  
Mrs Dowling & Mrs Butler