

Acorn update – Friday 23rd April 2021

Welcome back to all our little Acorns and their families. All the children have come back to school full of the joys of spring and keen to see their friends and continue with their learning.

We have a new topic for this half term: 'The Enchanted Woodland'. This topic builds on the experience and knowledge the children have already gained as part of their weekly forest school sessions. We have already ventured to the Millennium field, situated behind old school, twice this week to launch our topic. The children have been looking closely at the trees, the bark, their sizes (both width and height), identifying deciduous and evergreen trees and looking in books to identify trees to become familiar with our very own enchanted woodland, right on our doorstep.

In maths, this week all the children have been using a 100 square to count to 100 and to look for visual patterns in the rows and columns. As well as this, the children in Reception have been counting and grouping objects and pictures into equal sets by carefully 'sharing equally' so everyone has the same amount. The children in Year 1 have been learning about place value within 50 and have been learning about how many tens and ones make up a two-digit number.

In English, we have started our new book, which is called 'The fox and the star' by Coralie Bickford-Smith. It is a beautiful hard back book which navy blue, white and orange illustrations. We have only just started it, so no spoilers please! This week the book has led us to ask questions and learn about forests, woodlands and foxes. We have built up our vocabulary using words such as 'dense, nocturnal and vixen'.

PE: This week and for the next few weeks, the children are becoming 'batters and fielders'. They have been rolling balls to each other (over grass) and then moved onto some throwing and catching. The children talked about momentum and ball control during the session. Please ask your child to show you their 'banana split' stance when they roll or throw a ball. If you were able to help your child roll a ball to you, it would be great as many children struggled with this.

Reading books & diaries: All children in Acorn class now have a reading book and diary. Please can these be read at home, with a little note written in the diary, to let us know it has been read and how your child got on. If these are brought to school each day, we can talk with your child about their book and then change it for them.

Spellings: All children in Acorn class have been given a sheet of paper with their spellings on for the next 6 weeks. Each week the children will practise reading and writing these words each morning at school and then they will have a go at writing them on their own each Friday. A copy of these have been sent home and also posted on the website, so your child can practise reading and spelling them at home too.

Finally, the children had a lovely outdoor story time yesterday with Ms O'Sullivan. I am sure the children were as excited about this as Ms O'Sullivan was. Especially because there is nothing like sitting together (although socially distanced) and being read too (in the warm weather).

NOTICES:

- **Please make sure your child has a hat in their book bag, as it can get very warm in the afternoons. Whilst we are mindful of shade and how much time the children are outside, the sun can get into little eyes and be very annoying!**

- **Please make sure your child has a water bottle (containing water) in school as we do schedule drink times throughout the day and have noticed that some children do not bring a drink to school.**
- **Whilst it has been sunny and warm most afternoons this week, it remains chilly in the mornings and inside Acorn class. Please can you continue to layer up your child for their day at school.**

Enjoy the weekend and well done for getting through the first week back.

Take care,

Miss Blake & Mrs Evans