

## Early Years Newsletter: 10



### Nursery with Mrs Bendall

We have recently enjoyed mixing and applying a gloopy covering for cotton wool balls, cooking them and predicting what would happen. We found that some of them went hard and others went rubbery and put them to good use as both alien landscapes and sweets. There has been a lot of interest in mark-making (the precursor to writing). We have encouraged this through introducing a multi-coloured mark-making den, huge rolls of paper on the floor and sending each-other messages. In Phonics, we have been thinking about the sound at the beginning of our names and also the initial sound, when writing fruit onto our menu board at snack-time. Outside, we decided to have a second Christmas, decorating the bushes, wrapping presents, singing songs and role-playing waking up on Christmas. We also built a castle, thinking carefully about where we placed each type of block, to ensure the structure was strong and the baddies couldn't get in!



### Reception with Miss Smith and Ms Oliver

In Reception recently, we have learnt about Italy. The children made Venetian masks, collaged pizzas and made a variety of jewellery pieces by threading pasta. As we have been learning about Italy, the children made play dough volcanoes and watched as they erupted using vinegar and bicarbonate of soda. In maths we learnt about symmetry and made symmetrical pizzas, as well as learning about 3D shapes around us. Once again the children enjoyed their yoga session with Tatty Bumpkin and made their own pizzas or Greek salad with Mrs May. This week, Mrs May took the children on an adventure to Scotland! In class we learnt about Greece, the children learnt about a Greek myth and practised their letter formations.

### Morning Arrangements

After 'Half Term', in order to encourage the children to start coming in independently, we will be trialling a new system in the mornings. We would like to ask that children say goodbye to parents at the gate on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. On Tuesdays, we would like to invite you to come in between 8:45 and 9am to share a book with your child and on Thursdays, to play board-games together. The EYFS staff will change reading books once a week, instead of parents, so that we can support your child in this important transition. We hope that this will provide a good balance for everyone and welcome feedback both before and after the system starts. Thank you.

### Dates for your diary

- ***Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> of January*** Class photographs
- ***Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> of January*** Parents' Evenings (including Nursery and Reception- Booking system is now open!)
- ***Friday 9<sup>th</sup> of February*** Last day of half term
- ***Monday 19<sup>th</sup> of February*** First day back after half term break
- ***Friday 9<sup>th</sup> of March*** Muffins with Mum
- ***Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> of March*** Grandparents' Morning
- ***Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> of March*** PTA Summer Disco
- ***Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> of March*** Last day for Nursery, to allow for Home Visits
- ***Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> of March*** Last day of Spring Term for rest of school
- ***Monday 16<sup>th</sup> of April*** First day of Summer Term

Best wishes,

The Early Years' Team