

PRE-SCHOOL

This week we have.....

Been looking at sticks as part of our Wanderlust: A Nature Study Programme.

We have been using sticks to count with and to create with, the children have been making 'Stick Man' using sticks and string to tie them.

Been reading Stick Man and the children have been joining in and saying the words along with us.

Been looking at shadows and watching as the shadows changed position throughout the day. We drew around shadows and talked about why shadows would vanish.

Been splashing in the puddles and exploring how the water disappears into the sand. We spoke about pores between the grains where the water drains into.

Used the guttering to make ramps and slides for balls and cars. The children added string to the guttering to make a bridge. The children then sent items down the ramp to see what would go under or over the bridge, we spoke about why they could go under or why they would go over. The children said some items would go under because they were small and some were too big to go under so they went over.

Been out in the rain, even the pouring rain, to experience all the sensations of it. We crushed some the chalk on the floor to see what happened to the chalk as it mixed with the rain. The children mixed the different chalk colours with their hands on the floor to see what happened, the discovered blue chalk mixed with yellow chalk made green and red chalk mixed with blue chalk made purple. The children also added sand to the chalk, they thought adding the sand would make the chalk into paint so they wanted to experiment with it.

Had watercolour paint outside so the children could paint their own creations outside to be inspired by nature.

Been looking autumnal colours and the children were also drawing using these colours they selected themselves from the pencil pots. This means the children looked at the colours to select the best matches, we had pumpkin and leaf drawings using these colours.

We would like to say how well all of the children have settled into Pre-School and how they have formed some brilliant attachments with the team. These attachments are so important to your children's wellbeing and learning.

The learning we are seeing from them already is truly amazing.

Illness

We have seen a rise in children attending Pre-School with coughs and colds, can we please ask if the cough is bad or chesty, they stay at home. The children spend most of their time coughing and not being able to join in with activities, they would benefit from being at home to get better to be well enough to join in with all activities.

As a Pre-School we follow a curriculum like a School and we do not have facilities for them to sleep if they need to, like a nursery may have.

We also know that common childhood diseases are on the rise, these also get transferred to adults in some cases. As much as we try to teach good hygiene and do plenty of hand washing, the children are young and sometimes do not have the skills to 'Catch it, Kill it, Bin it' therefore these illnesses can spread not only to the children but to the staff.

We have had a case of chicken pox in Pre-School so please be vigilant and also be aware that the symptoms can also be the same as COVID-19.

COVID-19 as we know is on the rise again, so please do be careful and if anyone in your household has symptoms, they need to do a PCR test, children need to have the result before returning to Pre-School, and they should only return when well enough to do so. Please remember a cough is a symptom of COVID-19.

If your child comes into Pre-School poorly and we think they aren't well enough to join in with all activities we will be sending them home.

This may seem strict and we appreciate some parents are working, we also know children need to develop their immune system but we do need to protect children, their families, staff and their families. If numerous members of staff become unwell and are unable to come to work, Pre-School won't be able to open, so lets please work together.

Dates for your Diary (please check Newsletters and online Notice Board for updates)

Half Term

Monday 25th October – 2nd November.

Pre-School starts Wednesday 3rd November.

Applications for Primary School open

2nd November

Christmas Holidays

Pre-School finishes Friday 17th December at 11.45am

Pre-School starts January 4th.