

PRE-SCHOOL

Last week as part of our Wanderlust: A Nature Study Programme we looked at Mountains. We looked at pictures of mountains, spoke about the names of some mountains and how high they were, looking at the numbers involved in the height. Some of the children then went on to make mountains using items from our junk modelling.

The children also made mountains in the construction area using the big blocks and then were being explorers and climbing to the top of the mountain. This involved using their gross motor skills as they were moving the big blocks and carrying them around to position, they also used the tape measures to measure the blocks.

Some of the children were making patterns and shapes using the peg boards and elastic bands, this helps the children with their fine motor skills. They were seeing how far they could stretch the bands over the little pegs.

In group times Giraffe group were looking at numbers and number recognition and Flamingo group were looking at the alphabet.

We had water and sand inside and the children were really involved in tipping and pouring, this activity also led to discussion regarding quantity and volume as they tipped and poured the water/sand into different containers.

The children made their own playdough outside and then used natural resources such as pinecones and little sticks and other items they found outside to make things with it.

Their mud kitchen was in much use with lovely cakes, mudpies and soup being produced. The children used some of the herbs we have to add into their baking and cooking!

We have used the weather and the cold to discuss what happens outside in this weather and looked at the ice and how the water turned to ice, we talked about why the ground is hard and all the differences they could see or feel.

Some of the children were using litter pickers to try and pick up the ice, others were trying to work out how they could dissolve the ice. Some were using tools to pick at the ice and then someone came up with the idea of using warm water, so we experimented with these ideas to see which worked.

Missing item

One of our children has lost a navy blue snood, if your child has accidentally come home with a navy blue snood would you be able to return it to Pre-School so we can reunite it with its owner. Please remember to put your child's name all items of clothing to enable us and you identify them.

School Strikes

We have had a few enquiries regarding the teacher strikes, at the moment we cannot tell you anything that may happen in the Primary School and whether it will affect us, as we currently do not know anything. As soon as we hear from the Primary School we will be able to let you know. We do support the teachers and whatever decision they make, we know this will not be taken lightly.

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

February 13th – 17th Half Term, **Pre-School Starts** Monday 20th of February.

March 31st End of term Pre-School closes at 12.30pm, Easter Holidays start

April 17th Term 5 starts