

7th February
2020

Scalliwags Pre-School Newsletter 11

Half Term

Please remember that Scalliwags is closed from Saturday 15th February for a week. We wish you all a lovely half term and look forward to seeing you on 24th February.

Primary School Transition

After half term we will begin taking small groups of our Bear Club children up to Paddock Wood Primary Academy. Each time we will spend about half an hour either in the grounds, on the play equipment or in the hall. We will use the side gate to the school on St. Andrew's Road, so just a short walk from Scalliwags. Even if your child isn't going to this school it still helps them in their transition simply by experiencing the school environment. Please return your child's permission slip before Tuesday 25th February. Permission slips will be coming home next week.

Sound of the Week

Bear Club sound of the week next week will be 'f'.

After half term the sound of the week will be 'e'.

The Topic for next Week

The topic for next week is kindness and the week after half term the topic will be Pancakes.

Next Steps

In view of next week's topic, encourage your child to think of something someone has done for them that was kind. How did it make them feel?

Whilst outside, perhaps on the school run, look to see what signs of winter are around us. Can they count how many birds they see? You'll be surprised what the children notice!



The Last Two Weeks

Our Winter topic has certainly provided us with many ways to play and explore whilst thinking critically.

We have discussed what happens to the environment during the winter and how this affects our environment. This allowed the children to understand why we were making bird feeders. One child was so enthusiastic to tell us "The birds need breakfast and, in the morning, everything is ice, ice is hard and will hurt their mouths. So, we are helping." What a fantastic level of understanding! Whilst making the bird feeders it provided the children with a great opportunity to build on their fine motor skills, threading the cereal loops onto the pipe cleaners. The concentration level was very high. We have been learning a new song to the tune of 'the farmers in his den' the song is all about what items of clothes you can wear to keep your body warm. The children loved making up their own actions and did a fantastic job of remembering the new rhyme. We've explored different textures whilst designing different habitats for our polar animals. We've played with ice, foam, rice and sand. The children loved adding a sensory element to their imaginative play. We set up a 'Scalliwags' travel agents' and the children chatted away whilst looking at this new type of literature. The children are beginning to understand the wealth of information that can be provided by books and other literature. The children socialised with their friends discussing ways they would travel on their holidays and before we knew it, they were writing each other boarding passes and had the chairs out in the centre of the room for their "plane".





