

## Blog 6.3.20

Over the last few weeks your children have been working so hard to learn sounds, count and calculate, measure and weigh, plant and weed, explore and play. We have made mug cakes and eaten them; used dominoes to do addition; written about bees, ducks and other creatures and been around the world. What a busy classroom!!!

Dylan the duckling has been a very important addition to the class and thinks he is a member of Splash. When the children leave for lunch he has to be comforted by Kathy as he is so upset.

We have also planted lots of wildflower seeds in our garden to attract more bees and wildlife. We are hoping they grow and are beautiful for us too in the summer term.



Literacy: We have been focussing on independence in writing as we become more confident at writing down letters and sounds. We have been asking reception to write the sounds they can hear and to use all the prompts around the classroom to help them before asking an adult. They have made great progress and some children can now write without adults to guide them, although we still continue to praise and encourage.

In nursery, our younger children are starting to join in with writing sessions and make their own marks in their books. This is important as they see themselves as writers and are developing hand eye coordination and a 'can do' attitude to writing. We always welcome and praise them and ask them to read their writing back to us. Nursery are ready to start learning some of the first sounds and putting them together to make words.

Our latest writing project has been our duckling stories all about Dylan the duckling's adventures in the big wide world. All the children had lovely ideas and worked really hard to write their stories.

Mathematics: In maths we are concentrating on addition of small numbers up to 10 and problem solving. All our class are trying hard with our daily head count and we are beginning to count on or back in our heads to work out number sentences.

We are also investigating solid shapes by printing to see which flat shapes they are made up of. We produced some fabulous pictures and got through a lot of paint!!!

When we baked our cakes we used a balance as well as counting and measuring very carefully. We were all really successful at this and all our cakes tasted yummy.

We have also been looking at counting in tens to get to 100. We made collections of 100 objects and used a number square to find the 10s.



### Help at Home

If you are writing with your child at home, please use the rhymes and letter formation that we use at school. This really helps your child, and although some of the letters are tricky to start with, our children develop beautiful joined handwriting over their time with us, using the cursive scheme. If you need the scheme printed out again, please ask and we can give you it.

Counting to 10, 20, 100 and in tens! Please count whenever you can as well as singing counting rhymes and songs with your child. See if you can collect 100 of something...buttons, pasta shapes, leaves, and lay them out in lines of ten, then count in tens to check you have the right number.



Other News..... we have had some really sunny days in the forest with lots of time for tree climbing and playing. We made clay creatures using lots of natural materials, while thinking about the animals living around us in the woods. We have been making maps of our route to forest school, using a memory stick and collecting objects that reminded us which route to take. We love having Space Base in the woods with us and sharing our sessions with them.





Even more news....Last week we had our first Commando Joe challenge. This is a resource to develop children's resilience and teamwork skills and is suitable for all age groups in the school. We had an obstacle challenge through the jungle and had to observe and set up a camp for the night. It was challenging and great fun and hopefully there will be many more challenges to come.



Looking ahead....Parents evening is on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March. Please book an appointment with Kathy. I would love to see all our parents to share your children's successes and targets. On Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March, we will be holding a celebration for all parents and carers for Mothers' Day, starting at 9.15am in the school hall. On Friday 27<sup>th</sup>, the PTA are holding an Easter egg decorating competition and you are welcome to join us for a cuppa and cake and to see the presentation of the prizes from 2.15pm onwards.