



Date: 26/9/25

Theme: Making faces

This week:

Making faces

We've been learning all about ourselves and celebrating what makes each of us unique. The children enjoyed looking at their reflections in mirrors and talking about their individual features, from different eye, hair, and skin colours to whether their hair is straight or curly, and whether they have freckles or not.

We used a variety of materials from around the classroom to create expressive faces, and the children drew wonderful self-portraits that captured their personalities beautifully. These activities encouraged self-awareness and appreciation of diversity in a fun and creative way.

Pantasaurus

With the help of the friendly dinosaur Pantasaurus, we have been learning the PANTS rules. We have learnt that our privates are private and no means NO! We may refer to this frequently throughout the year. To find our more please visit <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule/>

Matching Maths

This week, we began our Maths sessions with a focus on identifying and matching objects. The children explored how items can be matched by colour, size, and function, and engaged in thoughtful discussions about whether objects still matched when placed on their side or upside down.

We then progressed to sorting activities, where the children grouped items based on different criteria such as separating glass beads from non-glass beads, or sorting by shape. These activities helped develop their observation skills and encouraged critical thinking about similarities and differences.

Finger Gym

The children have now settled into their morning routine, confidently putting away their belongings and beginning their Finger Gym activities. This week, they particularly enjoyed creating scratch art patterns, tracing lines, sorting colourful pompoms using tweezers and pegs, and painting over chalk lines. These activities not only sparked creativity but also helped strengthen their hand muscles and coordination.

Phonics: This week, we began learning some of our first phonics sounds. The children have been introduced to s, a, t, and p, along with the harder-to-read word 'a'. We've started practising sounding out and blending simple words using these sounds, helping to build early reading confidence.

To support learning at home, the sounds have been added to the children's book bags. Please try to make these part of your daily routine, even just a few minutes each day can make a big difference in helping your child embed and apply their new skills.

Forest school: Next week, we will be starting our Forest School sessions, which will take place every Thursday afternoon. Although the area is safe and well-supervised, it does contain some natural elements such as thorns, nettles, and uneven ground, which can pose minor trip hazards.

To help keep the children comfortable and protected, we recommend they wear trousers or tights to school on Forest School days, or bring a pair of trousers to change into before the session. Children will be provided with waterproofs, and during the colder months, these will be worn alongside their school coats.

Please note that our current waterproofs are becoming a little worn. If you would prefer to provide your own, feel free to send them in with your child's name clearly labelled. These can be kept on their peg for easy access.

PE: This week, we kicked off our Write Dance PE sessions with lots of energy and imagination! The children had great fun acting out an erupting volcano to music, using big movements and expressive actions to bring the scene to life. This exciting introduction sets the stage for next week, when we'll begin mark making inspired by our volcano dance, helping to develop early writing skills through movement and creativity.

Learning Journal

This week, I would like you to:

Go on an outdoor walk and collect some outdoor treasures, such as acorns, conkers, leaves and pebbles.

Can you find 2 matching objects?

Sort the objects into groups.

Draw pictures or take photos of your matching and sorting.

We'd love it if you could share some of your autumn treasures with us at school! We're especially looking for a supply of conkers and acorns to use in our classroom activities.

Please check that any items you bring in are free from holes, as these often mean little creepy crawlies are living inside. Thank you for helping us bring a bit of nature into our learning!

We are on the hunt!

- I am trying to develop our play dough area. If you have any cupcake trays please hand them to an adult on the gate. Thank you.