



Preston Primary

Unit 1 Puffins and Penguins Newsletter

Friday 9th February 2024

Love to
Learn

Be a Good
Citizen

Ready for
Work



Collaboration



Communication



Creativity



Critical Thinking

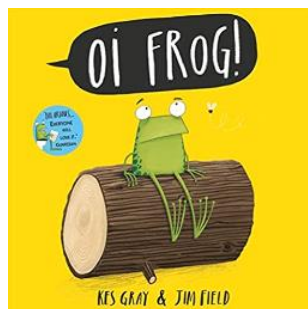
Literacy - Oi Frog!

The children continued to enjoy the funny rhyming story 'Oi Frog' by Kes Gray and Jim Field.

This week the children produced some writing linked to the story. Some children wrote pairs of rhyming words, (e.g. dog log); others wrote phrases (e.g. dog on a log), and some wrote a sentence (e.g. A dog can sit on a log.) Some were challenged to use a question mark in their writing (e.g. Can dogs sit on logs? Yes. Can cats sit on a dish? No.)

We have been focusing on accurate letter formation, using finger spaces and full stops to punctuate the end of a sentence.

We were really impressed by their hard work and determination. They have been practising to improve their writing and we are seeing their steps of progress.



When I Grow Up - Ready for Work

Architect Visit



Ready for
Work

Linking to our school curriculum aim 'Ready for Work', and to our Lego Discover programme, Mrs Fairclough came to visit the children to talk about her job as an Architect. She explained how creative an Architect can be when designing a new building or attraction in the community. The children understood the importance of working as a team. They were challenged to design and create a new house for the cartoon character 'Bluey'. They drew their own architect sketches and plans on special paper, and talked about the materials they would need. The children had some wonderful and creative ideas! They then swapped plans with a friend who had to build their design using a variety of construction materials.

Thank you, Mrs Fairclough; it was a fun, creative and informative session. At Preston we have high aspirations for children and want them to realise that anyone can be an Architect. Visits like this inspire children and provide opportunities for creativity.



Lego Discovery – Session 3



The Lego Discovery programme is playful learning that supports our school aims, 'Love to Learn', 'Be Good Citizens' and 'Ready for Work'. The programme enables children to explicitly learn about our school values. Children will talk about the values they have used in each session. These are skills for life and promote character development.

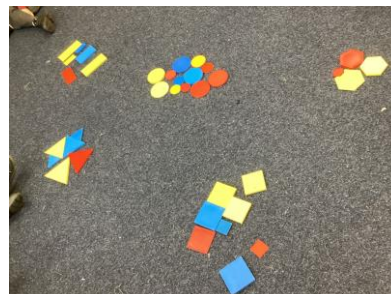
The children work in teams to explore, create, test and share. The theme this year is Boomtown Build. Children will explore the different buildings in a town and create their own. During each session children will have the opportunity to pose and solve problems, build confidence, take risks, apply knowledge, listen and empathise, and use teamwork.

This week the children had to work in a small groups to follow picture instructions to make a bridge with moveable parts. They had to communicate effectively to make sure they were using the correct parts and putting them in the right place. They used lots of positional language and we were impressed by their turn taking. Well done Puffins and Penguins.



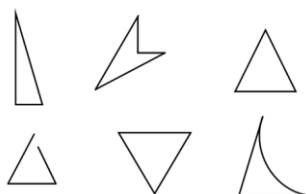
Maths – 2D shape

This week we have been exploring 2D shapes. We talked about the properties of shapes using language such as 'sides', 'corners'; 'straight', 'flat', 'round'. Then we sorted the shapes into groups.



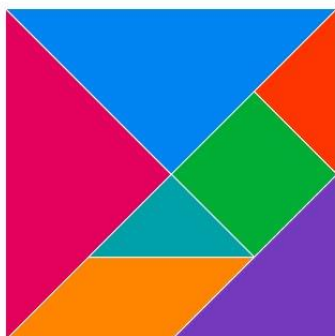
We thought that we knew what a triangle was, but some of the drawings below tried to trick us, as there were some similarities to a triangle, but there was at least 1 factor which meant that it could NOT be a triangle. For example, one of the sides was curved, or 2 of the sides did not connect.

'What is not?'



We also used a 'feely' bag to listen to clues about shapes, for example, this shape is round; or this shape has 4 sides which are equal length. We then revealed the shapes to see if the children had guessed correctly.

In our Spatial Reasoning lesson, we began to learn about Tangrams. We counted the shapes in a tangram and noticed that some of them were the same shape and size, even though they were different colours. We explored rotating the shapes to see what they looked like in different orientations. We will continue with this after the half-term break.



Seasons

This week we visited the tree in the park to observe the seasonal changes and to compare it to what it looked like in the other seasons. We noticed how the tree was bare and had no leaves on it. We remembered what the tree looked like at the end of the Summer when it was covered in green leaves, and in the Autumn when the leaves were changing colour and dropping. We also talked about the weather and how it was colder and wet. Exploring the world around them, provides children with the opportunity to understand how the seasons change, how time passes, and how it affects the world around us. We will continue to use the tree as a reference point for the seasons and we are looking forward to watching what will happen to it in the Spring.



World Book Day - Friday 8th March



World Book Day is an annual event which is celebrated in over 100 countries around the world! It is a wonderful way to promote reading, books, and authors. At Preston Primary we will be celebrating this special day on **Friday 8th March**.

All children are invited to dress up as a character from a book. At the end of this newsletter are some ideas of easy character costumes.

Please don't feel pressure to buy anything new especially for this day. Use the dressing up clothes or onesies that you already have. There are so many story books with characters containing pirates, witches, superheroes, animals, etc. Look at what you already have before buying new.

There will be lots of reading events happening in school that day. We will let you know more details closer to the event but thought we would give you advance warning so that you can think about what your child might like to wear.

Messages

- The messaging service on Seesaw is no longer monitored. If you have any messages regarding absences or medical appointments, please contact the school office on 01803 607075 or admin@preston.torbay.sch.uk

Home Learning

- Enjoy the story on Seesaw.
- Check your child's book bag and Seesaw for phonics activities and reading to complete at home.
- Have fun watching the Seesaw activity on triangles. Mrs Clague is finding them a bit tricky. Can you help her?
- Enjoy playing the 'shape monster' game. Look on Seesaw for the link.

Important Dates

- **Monday 12th - Friday 17th February** – Half-term.
- **Monday 19th February** – First day back to school.
- **Wednesday 21st February** – Eco-Committee second-hand uniform sale at 3pm.
- **Tuesday 27th & Thursday 29th February** - Parent meetings 3:30 – 6:30pm. (The email link for bookings will be sent out after half-term.)
- **Friday 8th March** – World Book Day.
- **Wednesday 27th March** – Trip to Theatre Royal in Plymouth.

From Mrs Bastin, Mrs Clague and the Foundation Stage Team

World Book Day costume ideas

'Little Red Riding Hood'

Wear red clothes or a school summer dress.
Carry a picnic basket with some goodies in.



'Matilda' by Roald Dahl.

Wear a blue dress with a red ribbon in your hair. Carry a stack of books.
Maybe draw a newt and put it inside a plastic cup or container.



'Goldilocks'

Carry three teddy bears and a box of porridge.



Charlie Bucket

(from 'Charlie and the chocolate factory' by Roald Dahl.)



Make a golden ticket using gold or yellow card.
Colour in some paper or card to make a Wonka bar.



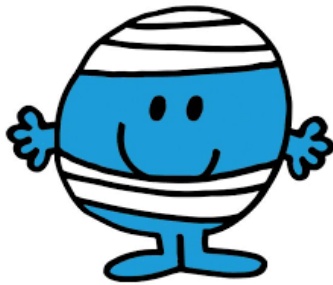
'Harry and his bucketful of dinosaurs' by Ian Whybrow

Carry a bucket (beach one is perfect) and put some toy dinosaurs inside it or stick picture of dinosaurs on it.



'Mr Bump' by Roger Hargreaves.

Wear blue clothing. Use bandages to wrap around head and tummy. Maybe you could also add some plasters.



'Dear Zoo' by Rod Campbell

Wear an animal onesie or an animal hat / headband / mask. Paint a cardboard box to be your travel basket. Maybe write 'Fragile' or 'Danger' on it.



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