



Preston Primary

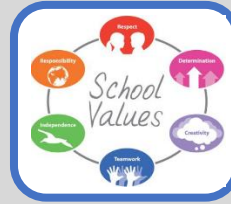
Unit 1 Puffins and Penguins Newsletter

Friday 19th April 2024

Love to
Learn

Be a Good
Citizen

Ready for
Work



Collaboration



Communication



Creativity



Critical Thinking



Creativity

This week we introduced the school value of 'Creativity'. Creativity is not solely linked to artistic skills. Creativity is also about being able to look at a problem, wonder, explore and develop solutions. Children need plenty of opportunities for creative play and creative thinking. Children need opportunities to try new ideas and come up with new ways of thinking and problem-solving. Our pupils have to feel a sense of freedom in their learning to take risks and have some choice in how they go about demonstrating their understanding. Creative activities help acknowledge and celebrate children's uniqueness and diversity, as well as offer excellent opportunities to be expressive.

In Foundation Stage, we learn our school values through dinosaurs. This is Creatoraptor :

I am Creatoraptor. I am very good at making links and using things I already know to help me learn new things. I enjoy challenges and I am great at thinking of ways to solve problems. I can think about what might happen and I like to test my ideas. If things don't work at first I keep on trying new ideas until I reach my goal.



The children took part in a carousel of activities to help them learn about creativity. One of the challenges was to help an animal cross a river. The children were able to be creative and use different resources and plan different methods of crossing the river. Some of the creative ideas included a hovercraft, a rocket, a bridge, a trampoline, a ferry and a zip line. Other challenges included designing a new vehicle linked to the story 'Mrs Armitage on Wheels' and being creative in the role play area.





Learning Experience – ‘Let’s investigate ...’

This week we began our new learning experience ‘Let’s investigate...’

Questions that we will be considering during this topic are:

- 1. How can we look after the world around us? Develop an understanding of responsibilities.**
- 2. What do plants need to grow? Why do we need plants? Develop a scientific understanding of plant-life and growing.**
- 3. Which foods can we grow? Develop an understanding of growth and a balanced diet.**

We want to encourage enquiring minds, supporting children to find out about the world around them and become more environmentally responsible. We talked about what investigate means and compiled a list of questions they had about the world around them. Some of these included:

- How many planets are there?
- How is honey made?
- How do birds lay eggs?
- How many countries are there?

The children wondered how they could find out more about the world around them. We decided they could use non-fiction books, videos, internet, objects or talk to different people.

This week we investigated ‘floating’ and ‘sinking’. The children tested a variety of objects and began to notice that items with common features behaved in the same way, for example, all of the wooden items floated, and all of the metal items sunk. We used this knowledge to predict what other items would do when placed in the water.



The children continued this curiosity in the Woodland Camp. We talked about how we can look after the world around us. The children impressed us with their ideas. They said we need to look after the trees and plants for the animals and bugs. They were also keen to make sure people do not leave rubbish on the floor because this can harm the animals and the world around us. The children took pictures of plants and trees in the Woodland Camp and noticed that new leaves and buds were growing; we talked about the season ‘Spring’. They also used litter pickers to collect any rubbish they found in the Woodland Camp. The children showed great responsibility and it was lovely to hear them talking passionately about their world.



EGGciting News!

This week something 'Eggciting' happened! Puffins and Penguins found an enormous mysterious egg. They began investigating to see if there were any clues as to where it came from. The children wanted to make sure the egg was protected so they taped the area off to keep people away. They created warning signs and made predictions as to what might hatch from the egg. There were lots of wonderful ideas: bird, crocodile, dinosaur, dragon. Some children are hoping it is a chocolate egg!

They used non-fiction books to help them find out which animals lay eggs. They learnt that animals that lay eggs are called oviparous. They watched a video clip to help gather more ideas. Here is the link if you would like to watch it with your child.

[CBeebies - Our Planet, Eggs and Green, Animals that lay eggs \(bbc.co.uk\)](https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/ourplanet/eggsandgreen)

Puffins and Penguins will be looking after and monitoring the egg. We have put an of the enormous egg image on Seesaw for you to discuss with your child and record their ideas.



Maths

This week we have been working on our understanding of addition, by telling Maths stories. We used the words 'first', 'then' and 'now' to tell addition stories, e.g. **First** there were 3 frogs on the log, **Then** 2 more frogs hopped on, **Now** there are 5 frogs on the log. Stories are helpful to ensure that children understand the process of addition and what the numbers 3 and 2 actually represent, rather than just seeing a number sentence '3 + 2 =?'. It also helps them to realise that the number will be bigger at the end as we have put more items in the story. We made our own bus and created number stories. We will continue to build on this concept over the next few weeks. There is an activity on Seesaw for you to try called 'One More' bus.

The image below represents – **First** there were 4 people on the bus, **Then** 5 people got on the bus, **Now** there are 9 people on the bus



Traditional Tales Videos on Seesaw

Before Easter the children were exploring traditional tales. They were busy retelling stories, making story maps, and creating drama. The children have recorded their traditional tale on Seesaw for you to watch. Acting out a story can be quite a challenge for some children. It is hard for children to choose the language they want to use and to project their voice. We are incredibly proud of them all.

Afterschool Activity Clubs

Club bookings have opened on Arbor. Spaces are limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis. A reminder that clubs for Foundation Stage will start next week.

- Wednesday – Multi Activity Club.
- Thursday – Woodland Camp Club.

All clubs will run 3.15pm – 4.15pm. Please collect your child from outside the main reception area.

Home Learning

- Enjoy the story 'Superworm' read by Mrs Bastin on Seesaw
- Check your child's book bag and Seesaw for phonics and Read Write Inc activities and reading to complete at home.
- Explore sinking and floating at home, maybe in a washing up bowl or in the bath at wash time. Before you put it in the water, **predict** what you think will happen.
- Complete the maths activity 'The One More Bus'
- Watch the traditional tales drama on Seesaw
- Look at the picture of the enormous mysterious egg on Seesaw and talk to your child about their ideas. You might like to do a bit of research together.

Important Dates

- **Monday 6th May** – Bank Holiday
- **Thursday 16th May** – Rock Up and Read 2.45pm
- **Thursday 23rd May** – Singing and Poetry Performance to Parents 2.45pm
- **Monday 27th May** – Half Term
- **Monday 3rd June** – Non Pupil Day
- **Tuesday 4th June** – Children return to school

From Mrs Bastin and the Foundation Stage Team