



Newsletter 13 May 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

In Baking this week, the Hedgehogs and Badgers were learning the process of **grating**, so they made a lovely summery slaw. Our Baking sessions aren't always about baking, so we won't be sending home gooey cakes every week (sorry!) but they are always about the skills and processes we use in the kitchen.

In our Practical Life areas (both rooms) we have been sorting bottles and boxes, making bubbles with detergent, winding wool and using a peg board. The Dormice have been feeding pennies into a piggy bank, and the Hedgehogs and Badgers have been using tweezers.

As part of our STEM focus, we have been finding out about climate here and in Africa. Our Gardening this week is all about sowing seeds, and what a plant needs to grow.

We have been increasing our use of Yoga with the children, so if your little ones are suddenly bending and stretching and balancing, that might be why...

Best wishes

Amanda

And Clare, Lisa, Nicola, Sarah, Mary, and Gail

Project

This term our project is Africa. We only have a very short term in which to share amazing facts and ideas about this wonderful continent. If you are able to help us with any extra story books or artefacts, we promise to look after them and return them intact. Thank you!



Sustainability

We would be very glad of a recycling box, if anyone happens to have a spare one please? We are very keen to encourage the children to discern what we can use again, and what we need to throw away. We will be talking about reusing, repurposing and recycling as part of our ongoing move towards improved sustainability. If any parent out there happens to be an eco-warrior and would like to share their wisdom with the team, we would be very glad to hear from you.

The Badger and Hedgehog Gallery...



My beaded animals have proved very popular this week, they were great for drawing, and have also popped up in the construction corner on the models, as well as being counted in the maths area. I was very impressed with the grating and peeling skills demonstrated by everyone on Monday, well done, the final coleslaw was 'mostly' free of fingers!!! One of our most popular activities however, was making our own clouds. After finding out all about how the wet season comes in Africa after weeks and weeks of hot weather, we explored what happens when moisture builds up in clouds, and then rain bursts all over the savannah. We added food colouring to our shaving foam clouds, then waited for the 'rain' to pour through.

Here are a few of this week's favourite moments from the Dormice Room:



This week's African focus has been 'all things Giraffe'. We learned a funny song about the parts of a Giraffe; heard a traditional story about how the giraffe got a long neck; we spodged giraffe camouflage print; we played a counting game using a spinner which showed zebra stripes or contrasting giraffe splodges.

We also found time to grate some delicious carrot and enjoy it at snacktime.

Everyone had fun at our popular Life skills area: here George and Mollie-Mae are concentrating hard to thread butterfly nuts onto metal bolts.

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