



The Acorns are continuing their interest in space this week after listening to the story "Whatever Next" by Jill Murphy. The children were able to develop their literacy skills by retelling the story using the props (empty box, bear, wellies, colander and a picnic blanket) this led to imaginative play in the home corner. We had some children pretending to be Baby Bear and making their own rockets from boxes, others had a picnic on the moon. While still on the topic of space some the children had some questions about day and night (the sun and the moon) which led to an interest in time. We spoke about events within our day and made their own clocks. The children have been developing their cutting skills while cutting pictures of their favourite toys from the catalogue, lots of discussion about Christmas presents! A few of the boys have been exploring the jewellery loose parts, making their own treasure hunt, hiding them all around the room for everyone to find. It's been national book week this week, where the children were able to tell us there favourite stories. The anti-pre-schoolers were given out their book bug bags full of books, activities and pencils. We shared the three stories within the book bag for story times throughout the two days. Outdoors some of the children participated in a big hide and seek game which led to everyone playing games with the big parachute.

The seedlings have been busy this week making obstacle courses all over the room, using whatever they can find to step and balance on. We responded to this interest by adding more wooden blocks and balancing board to the construction area. One of the children made a kite while at the craft area this week which inspired many other children to make one, obviously with all the windy weather we had it was a great opportunity to see if they would fly. With it being national book week this week, the children have been listening to three new stories provided from the book bug and sharing their favourite stories. The anti-pre-schoolers were able to take their book bug bags home filled with the books, activities and pencils. It has been a busy week at the mark making area for the seedlings, lots of great pictures being made as usual but this week has been the first week of writing letters to the man that lives in the North Pole. The children have been developing mark making skills and enclosing schema by participating in this activity. French Friday this week was learning about exercising in French chosen by the children. The children also recapped on their French body part by doing head, shoulders, knees and toes.

Cohort 2

Acorns

Messy play continues to be the main theme for the Acorn children, many of who are enjoying the textures and emotions of using messy play. This week they have enjoyed shaving foam car washes using the cars in foam to not only wash but this grew into a mark making learning experience for them. Using the cars to make tracks and shapes on the table top. We also enjoyed mixing some flour and water with yellow food colouring, I'm afraid this was very messy and apologies if your child came home covered! I'm sure it washed out though.

We have explored light and dark in the sensory tent and had lots of stories in there too. One story the children really enjoyed in the tent was "Can't you sleep Little Bear" a really lovely story about a bear who is afraid of the dark. Here is the You tube link if you would like to share it again with your child at home. <https://video.link/w/Vuw1b> Both Acorns and Seedlings groups enjoyed this story.

We have used torches this week and looked at shadows.



Again this week there has been a great deal of outdoor play and large physical movement with the acorn boys. They are enjoying big movement and have explored every part of the garden this week and also enjoyed the lovely wet weather too, puddles galore!

A group of children went to visit the war memorial in Kings Park as a follow on from last week when we observed 2 minutes silence with the children. Mrs Dalziel and Mrs Stark took the children to see the poppy wreaths laid there and when they returned they made some lovely pictures for the wall.

Seedlings

Seedlings this week have also explored night and dark and spoken about nocturnal animals.

We have loves some cupcake making in the playdough area, using so many different sparkles and toppings to be creative with them. This was a really popular space. There has been a lovely calm atmosphere in the seedlings group this week, enjoying listening to meditation music and having yoga classes, everyone is very chilled! There have been some lovely conversations taking place between children this week and some really lovely manors being used. We have all been practicing using our knives and forks at lunchtime and using lots of independence skills clearing our own places after lunch.

Mrs Taylor has continued exploring colours and textures with the children in the art area and this week they used tin foil to make Monet type paintings. There is a beautiful display of this growing in nursery which I will post for you to see next week.

The seedlings have also been discovering what Thanks Giving day is all about in America. Watch this space for more news next week!

French Friday was all about nocturnal animals this week.

Owl – Hibou

Mouse -Souris

Fox – Renard

Forest school had to be cancelled this week for some of the children due to staffing but we have enjoyed some forest school activities in the nursery garden. For those who did have a forest school session there was a great deal of exploring going on, using their bodies to climb and slide up and down a large hill. We also did a lot of litter detecting and clearing with the children too.

Thank you to everyone who has returned their Eye test forms. If you have not yet done this please can we ask for them by the end of next week?

Letters have been sent out this week regarding the extended hours. We are all really excited to be offering the children more time in Early Learning and look forward to learning together. As there are some children moving groups and days we understand this may be a little worrying for you as parents but we want to reassure you and if you have any questions please don't hesitate to pop us a message on seesaw or chat with us by telephone. It's a super exciting time for our King's Park children families and staff .