



Merry Christmas

The Birds

Now that we are in to the second week of December the children had the opportunity to listen to the Christmas story, this led to a few of the children recalling parts of the story. There was lots of opportunity for role play through small world and in the home corner with the baby dolls. We also have had a Christmas movie voting station where the children had a chance to vote for their favourite Christmas movie. We encouraged the children to help us count up the votes and next week the children will get the chance to have a movie and popcorn, watching the most voted for movie which was The Grinch.

There has been lots of Christmas letters to Santa this week developing their early mark making skills and enveloping schema. The children are really hoping to get a reply from Santa soon.

The interest in birds continues, we made bird fruit kebabs on Monday using string and apples. While doing this activity the children were able to develop their fine motor skills and hand eye coordination while threading the fruit on to the string, they are also learning to care for living things within our community. On Wednesday we made fat ball bird feeders using pinecones, lard and bird seed, this was a great sensory experience for everyone. We put them in the nursery garden in the hope that some local birds will feed from them. The children have been really interested in sensory learning this week, so we have provided different types of sensory experiences indoors and out. We had slime making, hand painting, bird seed messy play, coloured water mixed with different materials and a sensory tent with different lights, tactile resources and calming Christmas music inside. The children will learn to use all five senses when participating in these experiences. In the craft area this week we have had our very own elf workshop, there has been opportunities for wrapping different sizes of boxes, using scissors and cello tape and making Christmas chain decorations. There was lots of problem solving going on when having to use the correct amount of wrapping paper and adding more links to the Christmas chain in order to hang both ends up.

Talk time – this week we have been talking about feelings through Emotion Works. The children have had opportunities to use the colour cogs to explain their feelings, what the trigger was, how their body sensation feels, how they look when they have a feeling and how they can self-regulate. This allows the children to have a better understanding of feelings and also develop their vocabulary to describe their feelings. Instead of being happy they could feel good, joyful, cheerful, delighted etc.

Sign - a - long - This week Mrs Stark continued to show us more signs for we wish you a Merry Christmas. The children are doing really well to remember the signs.

French Friday – Learning how people in France celebrate Christmas time, and how to say merry Christmas in French “Joyeux Noël”



The Woodland Animals.

Well it's certainly beginning to look a lot like Christmas in King's Park ELC.

This week the children in the woodland cohorts have enjoyed a lot of art and creativity. They have had the opportunity to make Christmas cards, Crackers, present wrapping and lots of sticking and gluing Christmassy pictures. The children have helped to decorate a lovely Snowman and Christmas tree for us to put up on the wall. We have enjoyed using tinsel everywhere! There has been a great deal of numeracy and lots of number recognition taking place all around the setting.

Each night the children are taking turns to open the Christmas Advent calendar and they really look forward to this each day. Such a special thing to do and very exciting to discover each night what's behind the door.

We have filled the story area with some lovely Christmas stories and the children have been enjoying sharing stories both in a group and together with each other. Taking time to look at the pictures, talk to each other about the books and ask the adult to read the stories.

There has been a lot of imaginative play this week in the Christmas village. This was something that came from last week's snowy Friday. The children have really engaged in the village, taking the Christmas train around the village and delivering the presents to the children there and the penguins too! Lots of lovely imagination and conversations taking place. Some of the families in the village went fishing with frosty the snowman and tried to catch a fish for their tea.

Some children have enjoyed using the lego to construct some really interesting models and there has of course been lots of dinosaurs involved as there often is with the woodland children.

There has been lots of fun in the shaving foam, moulding and adding water to change the shapes and texture of the foam. The children have also made lots of Christmas shapes and models in the Christmas scented playdough. Many of the children have been making Santa's face and beard with playdough on the mats we have made for them.

Outside the children have been working on their sharing skills and taking turns with the bikes and scooters. Sometimes it's hard to wait for your turn but we are working hard on this.

The children have enjoyed being in a marching band and using the musical instruments they made a few weeks ago. Using pots and pans, wooden spoons and drainpipes to see who could make the loudest noise!

When outside we have been enjoying our favourite nursery rhymes.

There has been a lot of police in the nursery playground today, we built a police station and the police were catching the bad guys and putting them in jail. When asked what the bad guys had done to be bad one child told me "He was very cheeky to his mum", if the crime fits!

When being Policemen and woman the children were using lots of numeracy, counting to ten before the bad guys could leave jail. Knowing that you have to ring 999 for emergency and that's not just the police that's for the fireman and ambulance too. One of the children asked me what the police do, we had a lovely chat all about how they help us and how they look after us and help to keep us safe.

Although there has been new changes and additional days for some of the children they have all done really well in their transitions and we are all very proud of them and how resilient they have been throughout the whole time since August and still continue to take everything in their stride. They are developing into happy confident little people ready to take on new challenges no matter what they are, Super heroes all of them.

Another very busy week of learning for the Birds and the Woodland animals.

Absence from Nursery

As the season of coughs, colds, sneezes and tummy upsets is upon us. If your little one is poorly and will be absent from the ELC can we ask that you make a quick call to the school to notify them that your child will not be in that day. 0131 271 4610

Waiting areas for Parents

The Birds – please stand to the left of the nursery gate remembering to wear masks and socially distance from each other.

The Woodland Animals – please stand to the right of the nursery gate remembering to wear masks and socially distance from each other

Christmas

Eye tests take place 15th and 16th December

17th December – a virtual visit from a very special Man in red himself!

Christmas lunch for the children will be December 17th

End of term 22nd December 2020