



Reception 'Donaldson' Weekly

Newsletter - 26.1.24

What have we been up to this week?

This week we have been continuing to read 'Whatever Next!' and non-fiction books about Firefighters/Fire Engines

In Phonics this week we have been consolidating all our sounds and tricky words - no new sounds or tricky words! This week our focus words for spelling and writing have been longer words such as **lemon, rocket, market, bedroom, sunset, carpet** and **farmyard**. Please see the attached home learning sheet to help you practice these at home.

In Literacy we have been innovating the story 'Whatever Next' by changing the middle of the story. We thought of our own places that Baby Bear could visit and have an adventure instead of the Moon. We then wrote or drew our own version of the story with our innovations! Baby visited the jungle, Lapland, an African savannah, Disneyland and a tropical island - great ideas by the children!

In Maths we have been working on the composition of 5 - working out the pairs of numbers (number bonds) that make 5 - $5 + 0$, $4 + 1$, $3 + 2$, $2 + 3$, $1 + 4$ and $0 + 5$. We have made towers of 5 using the unifix cubes to show our number bonds and used part-part whole models to show the 'parts' of 5 that make the 'whole'.

In our topic work we have been learning about firefighters and the different roles that are part of their job. We have also learnt about fire safety and sorted things are safe to play with and not safe to play with. In gymnastics we worked on our jumping skills using our work on shape from the last couple of weeks and in art we have been creating our own concentric circles based on the work of Wassily Kandinsky.

Next week we will be...

- Revisiting, reviewing and assessing in phonics
- Making our own story books.
- Learning about the composition of 6 and 7 thinking of them as '5 and 1 more' and '5 and 2 more'
- Learning about police officers and their job.
- Learning about road safety.
- Making our own mixed-media art inspired by Wassily Kandinsky

Ways to help at home...

- **Read! Read! Read!** This is the biggest thing you can do to support your child's learning journey!
- Practise the new phase 3 sounds we have learnt so far - **ai, ee, igh, oa, oo, or** and **ar, ur, ow, oi, ear, air** and **er**.
- Practice recognising and writing the new tricky words **are, sure** and **pure**.
- Count up to 20 out loud.
- Practice using the prepositions in front, behind, next to, under, over etc with a teddy.

Requests and reminders:

- We will be celebrating **Chinese New Year with a special themed day on Thursday 8th February**. Can children please dress in Red or in a Chinese themed outfit on this day. We will be learning about how Chinese New Year is celebrated including doing some Chinese food tasting, Chinese crafts etc on this day.
- We will be holding an Art themed **parents stay and play session on Tuesday 6th February from 2pm** so if you would like to attend, please reserve this date in your diary!

Mrs Gwynn ☺