



Reception Weekly Newsletter

Term: Spring Term 1 Week: 3 Week ending: 20.01.23

Religious Education

Local Church – Community – Celebrations

This topic is all about how we celebrate together at Mass. This week the children were introduced to the 'parish family' and the people who help us celebrate together in Church. We also found out about some of the important artefacts in church. Next week we will look at the scripture and find out the story of the presentation of Jesus at the temple.

Communication, Language and Literacy / Understanding the world

This week we have been learning all about Chinese New Year. We read the non-fiction book (and discussed what that means) called holidays and festivals which gave us lots of information about CNY and how it is celebrated. We watched some clips about a little girl called Abbie from Liverpool who talked about traditions her and her family have and how she visited the Imperial arch in Chinatown and had a special meal with her family.

We then read the story of 'The Great Race' which taught us all about how the different years of the Chinese Zodiac got their names.

The children talked through some sentences about facts that they had learnt and used their phonic skills to write this.

We had some traditional Chinese food for snack such as rice noodles and prawn crackers which we tried very hard to eat using chopsticks.

Maths

This week we learnt about positional language. We set up an obstacle course outside as well as playing follow the leader in PE to help follow positional instructions. The children used good position and direction words to describe how they travelled. We read the story 'Rosie's Walk' and matched the pictures to the positional words then made our own story maps.

Expressive arts and design

We have had a very busy week in our child-initiated learning this week; with lots of activities linked to Chinese New Year. We used the colours associated with CNY to paint some pictures and tried to write some Good luck message signs of our own. In the creative area, we made and decorated Chinese lanterns and fans by using a folding technique and even made our own large dragon head using collage that we paraded around the outdoor area with playing instruments at the same time.

We also listened to some Chinese music and used the chime bars and cymbals to explore different notes.

Phonics

This week we learnt at the digraph **ng** and the long vowel digraphs **ai** and **ee**. We explained to the children that the phoneme says the same as the first letter in the digraph's name.

We also learnt the new tricky word **was**

Physical Development

The children LOVED being outside digging in the snow this week. They were scooping and transporting and trying to fill a bucket to see if we had enough to make our very own snowman! They did a great job of putting on their wellies and waterproofs (over their coats) to keep extra warm.

Home Learning

This weekend it is Chinese New Year, so therefore we have sent a phonic activity linked to this and a maths task focusing on positional language.

A big thank you!

To Oliver's dad and Grandad who came in to talk to us today about Chinese New year. He told us all about how the new year is celebrated in China and brought us all a fortune cookie to try. He also brought his guitar and we played musical statues and danced like the different animals in the Chinese zodiac. We loved having visitors in class...it was really interesting.

Happy Lunar New Year!