

Ashleigh Nursery

Newsletter



13th November 2020

This week

This week was the first week of our spider topic. The children have enjoyed learning lots of spider facts, we used information books, the internet, and short films to support our investigations. We began the week reviewing what we already knew about spiders and identified what we wanted to find out, then the children explored lots of spider and spider web-based challenges in their independent play and learning.

Meanwhile, outside we have been on lots of spider hunts and have used our investigative and noticing skills to closely observe everything spider! We have talked about how spiders are living things and that we must treat them with respect and always be careful so as not to disturb them, their habitats, or their webs.

Spiders are great vehicle for maths! We've been practising our careful counting skills to add legs and eyes to spiders, rolling a dice to see how many flies are caught in webs, sorting spiders, and building web patterns.

Next week

We will continue our Spider topic – reading more spider stories and non-fiction texts too.

In our maths we will learn about dice patterns and use the technique of visualisation to help us explore the pattern of number. For example we will look at how the number 6 is made up of two rows of three or three rows of two. We will take pictures in our minds eye of these dice patterns enabling us to eventually manipulate and apply numbers.

We will also begin to learn about size vocabulary and associated language (small, medium, large, giant, enormous, smaller, bigger, larger etc), and positional language such as on top, underneath, next to and between.

We would love to receive art work for our home/art display, you may choose to send in a picture, a painting, a 3d model.

Word of the week

Our word of the week is weave. We have been talking about how spiders weave their webs, and we wove a huge web in Nursery. Can you practise using the word at home?

Clothing

Please make sure that your child comes to Nursery with weather appropriate clothing and sturdy shoes particularly now it is getting colder. Please note shoes with laces are not appropriate for Nursery as they often come undone and cause trip ups!

PATHS

This week we have been very excited to introduce our 'PATHS' (Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies) programme to the children. PATHS is a social and emotional programme to support children's emotional development, problem solving, self control and self confidence. We talk about our feelings recognising that we all have both comfortable and uncomfortable feelings and that we all experience these feelings at different times. We explore positive ways to support our more uncomfortable feelings. We also explore problem solving in relation to relationships, children getting on and falling out. Previous Nursery parents have noticed a real positive effect at home in children managing their feelings and behaviours.

As part of PATHS, to support children's self esteem, each day we have a "Special Person", who has special jobs (such as helping to set up snack and count the children). The Special Person receives a compliment at the end of the session, there is space at the bottom for you to write a compliment from home and bring it back to share with the class. Throughout the day children are able to show us how they are feeling using our PATHS display board in a carpet area helping us to respond to their individual needs.

Session Availability

We have the following permanent spaces available:

Mornings: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

Lunch: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday

Afternoons: Friday

Please contact Monica in the school office nursery@ashleighprimary.net for further information.

Absence

If your child is unwell, please email or call the school office to let them know on the first morning they will be absent from Nursery.

Extended Hours

Please remember to reconfirm your code every 3 months. You won't receive a new code but your existing one will be extended for another 3 months. You should receive an email to remind you of the expiry date but always best to log into your account and make a note on the calendar!

Lunch session invoices

Lunch session invoices and details on how to pay have been emailed to all families. Please could all payments be made by Friday 20th November. After this date, a late payment fee of £10 will be applied in addition to the outstanding balance.

Please email Monica on nursery@ashleighprimary.net if you have any problems paying by the above date.

Learning links at home

Each week we will suggest some activities you could do at home with your child to support their learning in Nursery.

- Go on a spider hunt – where might you find spider's webs? If you find a web, notice its pattern and what the spider is doing.
- Can you find out a new fact about a spider and tell us about it?
- Make a 3D spider out of junk or craft materials for our art displays in Nursery – what will you need?
- Play a dice game, count the spots, and notice the pattern to know which number it shows.

Please also see the main school newsletter for important dates.