



Blackberry Lane Bulletin

February 2025



The first week of February seemed to be all about food and catering equipment. A wooden barbecue was found in a charity shop and brought into the setting and proved very popular. The children made play dough sausages and burgers and were given tongs to flip their food when cooked. Later on, they went outside and cut various herbs to make some potions.



The under twos investigated the gloop (cornflour and water) with some animals. When they finished getting all their animals dirty, they washed them in soapy water.



Preschool used a salad spinner to make pretty patterns with the paint. They were asked to predict what would happen before spinning the paper plate inside the container.



The under twos did a lot of singing this month and it was lovely to hear. They used musical instruments as they sang. Cars and construction seemed popular themes. Both preschool and the under twos played with various construction tools, building with the bricks and sawing pieces of cardboard. Some of the preschool children pretended to clean and fix the cars.





This month must have been cold as a lot of children were seen making beds with blankets, both inside or out. Some children chose to take Lissie on a journey in a plane, making full use of the caterpillar in the climbing area.



Week two was all about the Luna New Year, and it is the Year of the Snake. If you recall from last month's newsletter, snakes were very popular. The children spent a lot of time developing their fine motor skills and cut out snakes following a spiral pattern. The under twos were interested in other jungle animals and made lion masks with a paper plate and strips of orange and yellow paper.



The preschool children showed a keen interest in birdwatching. They set up base near the nursery garden, armed with binoculars and a book about birds, and tried to spot them.

This last week, we have actually seen some sunshine and another downpour of hailstones and have enjoyed being outside nonetheless. One child suggested painting the sand in the tuff tray. They mixed paint and powder paint into the sand with their hands. Instead of using the bowl of soapy water provided to wash their hands, they decided to wash their hands in a puddle and were delighted to watch how the puddle changed colour.



Some children were lucky enough to investigate the inside of an ambulance which had come to visit the reception class. Lovely Gemma (who used to work with us) and a paramedic called Steve, talked to the children about their role, and let them sit inside the driver's cab. They were even allowed to operate the lights and the sirens.



On Friday mornings the older children have been going over to the Primary school hall and testing their physical skills to the limit, using large climbing equipment to balance, climb and jump. They have been playing games that involved a lot of listening and following instructions to move in different ways, run at different speeds and stop. The parachute proved a big hit this week. The younger children have been participating in music and movement sessions of their own, and dancing along to action songs.



We have been reading fairytales this week, and following the Jack and the beanstalk story, some children wanted to make a beanstalk. Due to it only being February and too early to plant any beans we improvised and used green painted cheerios and paper leaves to thread onto pipe cleaners, This activity was good for the children's hand eye coordination and fine motor skills.

This topic will also lead on nicely to next week as we will be celebrating World Book Day. Children and staff are all invited to dress up as their favourite book characters through out the week.



Term dates

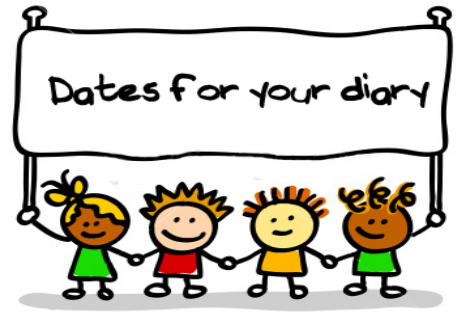
31st Mar-4th Apr Unfunded week

7th April-21st April Easter Holiday

22nd April first day of summer term

5th May Bank Holiday

26th May-30th May Half term holiday



Upcoming events

Thursday 6th March World Book Day

Everyone is invited to dress up as their favourite book character during the week.

17th to 21st March Comic Relief Week

There will be various fundraising events during the week. More information to follow.

19th March Beep Beep day

There will be a road safety message and activities on this day.

19th June Pirate Afternoon tea

Invitations and information to follow.

Friday 27th June Summer Fair (date to be confirmed)

Monday 7th July Sports day