

Friday 20th April 2018

Dear Parents

Animal Life Cycles



On Monday, the children discovered that there were several tadpoles swimming around in the tank in our investigation area. What a lovely surprise after the Easter holidays! They have been monitoring them closely and recording their observations using our calendars and dairy booklets.

During our shared reading this week, we discussed the life cycle of a butterfly using key vocabulary and made comparisons to other animal life cycles. The children are looking forward to receiving some caterpillars soon and

watching their transformation over the next few weeks.



We have certainly made the most of the weather this week. The children have created butterfly shaped kites, ribbon dances, songs with musical instruments, life cycle models and constructed a caterpillar obstacle course out of reels and wooden planks with different heights. The children have also enjoyed making caterpillar tracks with stilts dipped in water and exploring the new 'vet' and 'farmers market' role-play area.

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On Tuesday afternoon, the children made 'hungry caterpillar' fruit skewers for our afternoon snack, which were really tasty and refreshing! On Thursday, the children worked with a specialist art teacher to produce butterfly wing watercolour paintings. She will be working with children in small groups over the next few weeks to enhance their art skills.



Mathematical Development



In Maths, we are learning to count accurately so that we can count how much food the hungry caterpillar has eaten altogether. We are concentrating on adding two single digit numbers together by the 'counting on' method. The children have also enjoyed threading beads onto the 'caterpillar' pipe cleaners to count, sort and measure.



Literacy Development

In Literacy this week, the children are learning to build their own sentences about life cycles and write them down using Fred Finger. Next week we will be



concentrating on spelling action words so that we can spell these accurately in our writing.



Our beautiful observational paintings of butterfly wings.

Sun hats & sun cream

I know lots of you provided your child with a sun hat this week; however, please can we prompt you all to provide sun hats as we approach the summer months and particularly on sunny days. We also recommend that you apply sun cream before your child comes to school. We can keep a bottle of sun cream – clearly labelled with your child's name too for reapplication.

Action words & reading

Please continue to practise reading and writing the action words in your child's book bag. Also, please can we remind you about the importance of practising reading at home. The more your child reads, the more confident they become.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Burrows, Mrs Sellars and Mrs Ward

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