

Friday 15 January 2021

Dear Parents

The week has passed quickly, which in some ways is no bad thing. Hopefully we are another step closer to slowly beating the virus and we are certainly also heading to longer days and shorter nights which is a good thing.

It is remarkable how many parents have used the phrase 'Groundhog Day' to describe how they are feeling at the current time. If you haven't seen the film, it is certainly worth a watch; there is nothing quite like escaping in a good film for a couple of hours, in winter.

You may recall Miss Belzer's piece in the newsletter last week, focusing on Learning Trays and Baskets as part of our ongoing provision. I would like to share with you a few examples of how we are offering the children individual activities to support their learning at Table Time. The teaching staff work closely together and we have embedded a culture of sharing good practice including rotating our resources to benefit all the children (after a thorough clean and period of quarantine of course.)



Best wishes  
Mrs Sylvester

## Learning Trays and Baskets at Broadhurst



## Curriculum News from Miss Belzer

Fine Motor activities continue to be a high priority in our provision at Broadhurst and is one of the key themes in our tray and basket activities. This week, children have been exploring a range of activities including cutting, using pegs to transfer pom poms, pouring with water, threading beads on pipe cleaners, scooping rice, mark making in coloured sand and much more. As children strengthen the muscles in their hands, fingers and wrists they develop the dexterity for writing and drawing. Children are also encouraged to use their three-finger pincer grip, a prerequisite for pencil control.

You may like to try these activities at home:



Attaching paper clips on a paper towel roll.



Pouring activities – encourage your child to pour from left to right in order to train their eye from left to right which will assist your child's ability to track letters and words when learning to read.



Try using different sized scoops, spoons, tongs or tweezers.

**Miss Belzer**

## Diary Dates:

### Term Dates:

Half term:

Monday 15 February-  
Friday 19 February

End of Term:

Wednesday 30 March

Summer Term starts:

Wednesday 20 April

**World Book Day-**

Thursday 4 March

**Parents Evening-**

Monday 8 – Thursday  
11 March, further  
details to follow



## Class 4 News

This week Class 4 have been getting fully involved in all things 'farm' related. We have opened up our Farm Shop in the Home Corner, selling a wide variety of fruit and vegetables. We mucked out pigsties and washed the pigs and made some lovely pictures with paint and vegetables.

In phonics we have been learning the 'p' sound and sorting through different objects that have it as their initial sound. We have even been able to practise our phonics with Percy our Pink Peckish Pig who we feed with different foods beginning with 's', 'a', 't' and 'p'.

We have been exploring our understanding of more and less in maths, making different piles of animals and seeing which one has more. We have also continued to practise our shapes by making a shape tractor which we will be driving when it goes up on display on our farm board.

We have continued to read many different stories about farms including Dora's Eggs, Gossie and You're Too Small. We have also recreated these stories and made up our own in our sensory tabletop farm. The pigs have enjoyed rolling around in the All-Bran and Weetabix have turned out to be a firm favourite of the cows and goats. We have even been able to watch a little video about growing carrots and apples on farms ready for us to buy in the shops.

Our love of singing has continued and we have started to learn a new fun song about jumping up and down in colourful tractors as well as practising our animal noises with the firm favourite Old Macdonald.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend and I look forward to more fun, learning and exploring in Class 4 next week.

**Miss Harriet**

## Class 4 Photo Gallery

