



Message from the Headmistress



Dear Families,

It has been a wonderfully busy first week back, and it has been a pleasure to see the children return so enthusiastically to school life.

We have enjoyed vibrant Lunar New Year celebrations across the school, with the children learning about traditions, stories and cultural customs. The week culminated in a very exciting visit to the local fire station for our Nursery children as part of their '*People Who Help Us*' topic. It was a fantastic experience for them to see the fire engines up close, meet the firefighters and observe how they work to keep our community safe. Opportunities like this bring learning to life in such a meaningful way.

A reminder to our Class Reps that our next Parent Rep meeting will take place on Friday 6th March at 8.00am, with the option to attend either in person or online. We very much value these meetings and the constructive dialogue they enable.

We will also be running a 4+ Assessment Workshop for Pre-Nursery parents on 25th and 26th March at 5.00pm. Please do put one of these dates in your diary if this is relevant to you. We hope the session will provide helpful insight and guidance as families begin to think about the next stage of their child's educational journey.

In the meantime, I hope you all have a lovely weekend, and we look forward to seeing everyone back on Monday.

With very best wishes,

Eilish Sleator .
Headmistress.

Mondrian Class

This week in Mondrian Class, the children were busy celebrating Lunar New Year with a strong focus on sensory experiences. They explored a range of textures, colours, and hands-on activities linked to the celebration, engaging their senses through play and discovery.

Communication and Language and Literacy.

The children read *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?* by Bill Martin Jr. and Eric Carle. They enjoyed the repetitive structure of the story and began anticipating familiar phrases, supporting their listening and language development.

Physical Development (Fine Motor Skills)

The children practised scooping using spoons during sensory play activities. This helped develop hand-eye coordination, control, and the fine motor strength essential for later writing skills. They are really enjoying their weekly Yoga sessions and are learning to do the moves with enthusiasm.

Mathematics

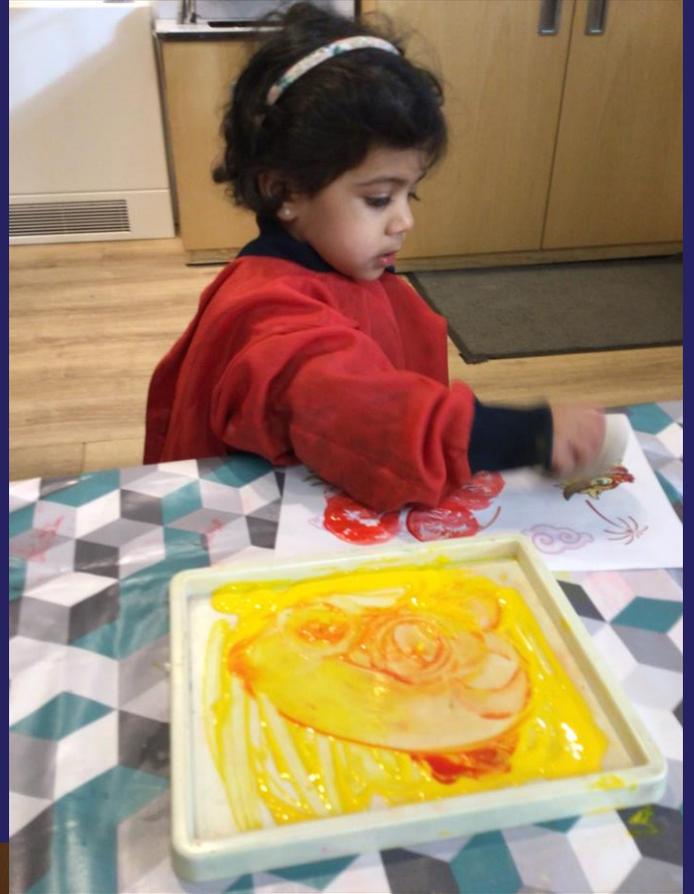
The children were introduced to the concept of size by learning about big and small. They sorted pictures and compared objects, beginning to understand and use size-related vocabulary in context.

Phonics

The children had great fun feeding the Dragon with the initial sounds of their names. This playful activity supported recognition and articulation of the first sound in their own names.

Expressive Arts and Design

Inspired by Lunar New Year and their learning about spring, the children created Cherry Blossom trees using their fingertips. This printing activity encouraged creativity while further strengthening fine motor control. They also began learning about the seasons, exploring how cherry blossoms bloom in spring.



Pre-Nursery

This week, the children dove into the exciting world of *The Three Little Pigs*! They explored the story through discussion, movement, and creative activities, bringing the characters and their houses to life.

Communication and Language

The children enjoyed sharing what they did over half-term and talking about how those experiences made them feel. There were lots of smiles as they practiced speaking in full sentences and listening carefully to their friends.

Physical Development (Gross Motor Skills)

The children had great fun practicing their throwing skills by aiming balls at a target. They concentrated on their aim and control while cheering each other on.

Maths

The children became shape detectives, identifying 2D shapes and counting how many corners each one had. They explored shapes hands-on and used mathematical language to describe what they noticed.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

The children talked about resilience and what it means to keep trying, even when something feels tricky. They discussed how practice helps us improve - just like the three little pigs learning to build strong houses!

Literacy

The children learned the story of *The Three Little Pigs*, focusing on recognising the characters and describing the setting. They enjoyed retelling parts of the story and joining in with familiar phrases.

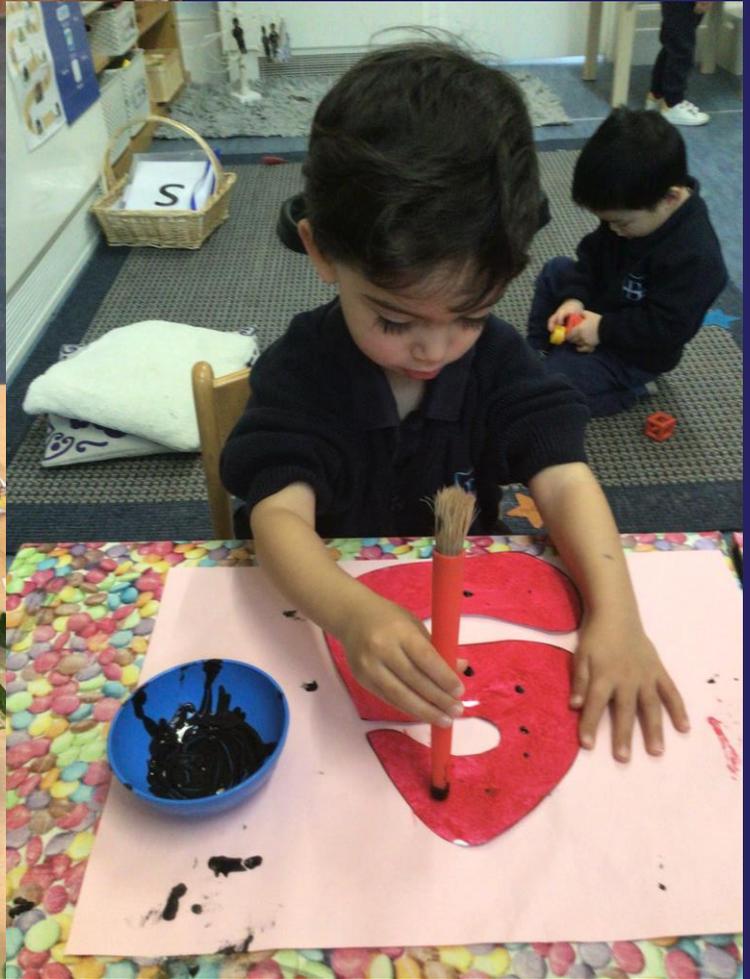
Expressive Arts and Design

Inspired by the story, the children designed and built their own houses using different materials, exploring which ones were strongest. They also took part in creative movement, dancing as a dragon to the beat of the drum and going on a Lunar New Year adventure, combining music, movement, and imagination in a festive celebration.









Nursery

Fire Station Visit

This week, the Nursery children had an exciting visit to West Hampstead Fire Station. They sat on a real fire engine, practiced using a hose to spray water, and loved hearing the loud siren - experiencing first-hand what it's like to be a firefighter!

Understanding the World

The children explored **Lunar New Year**, discovering how it is celebrated worldwide, learning about traditions, decorations, and festive stories.

Mathematics

The children recapped **addition and subtraction** using a number line, counting forwards and backwards to solve simple number problems in a hands-on, playful way.

Problem Solving

Inspired by *Supertato*, the children worked to **free frozen or tied-up vegetables**, practicing logical thinking, planning, and teamwork.

Science Experiment

The children investigated how **colours mix and move** with a “fireworks in a jar” experiment, exploring cause and effect through hands-on sensory learning.

Personal, Social, and Emotional Development

The children took part in a group challenge to build a large dragon, practicing teamwork, listening, sharing ideas, and celebrating together.

Literacy

The children read *Supertato*, discussed story parts, and created their own stories, practicing sequencing and imaginative storytelling.

Music and Movement

They danced together in a simple Lion Dance, practicing rhythm, coordination, and moving in time to music while enjoying festive fun.









5th March World Book Day

6th March @ 8am – Parent rep meeting – either in person or online

Week beginning 16th March: Parent and child mornings – sign-up sheets will be available closer to the time

23rd March- Ark Farm visit to school

25th March- Van Gogh and Matisse Classes visit to Swiss Cottage Library

26th March – Picasso and Monet Classes visit to Swiss Cottage Library

25th & 26th March @ 5pm – 4+ Assessment Workshop

Ramadan 17th Feb-18th March