

R.E

- In RE this week we have been comparing the two parables, 'The Hidden Treasure' and 'Pearl of Great Value'.
- The children had to write what is similar and different about these parables.
- They had to sequence pictures from the parables in the correct order.

Key vocabulary: parable, Jesus, compare. Kingdom of God, treasure

Coming up after half term: Lenten promises

English

- This week we continued our topic on persuasive speech.
- The children have been planning their own persuasive speech, about how we can look after our environment.
- Thought about persuasive language choices
- They have been using rhetorical questions, to engage their audience.

Key vocabulary: persuade, speech, rhetorical question, audience, environmental issues

Coming up after half term: the children will continue with their persuasive speeches.

Maths

- To use associative law and distributive law to help solve multiplication and division questions. See example below:

9×7

If we don't know what 9×7 is, we can regroup our 9 to use multiplication facts that we do know.

So $4 \times 7 = 28$
 $5 \times 7 = 35$
 $35 + 28 = 63$

Key vocabulary: associative, distributive

Coming up after half term: Making links between pictograms and bar charts

Science

- To describe a soil sample using sedimentation.

Key vocabulary: soil, earthworms, sediment, minerals, nutrients

Coming up after half term: light and shadows

Messages:

- There will be no homework set over half term. Please continue to read with your child and use times table rock stars.
- Inset day Monday 23rd February (school closed).
- Tuesday 24th February, children return to school.
- Thursday 26th February, food donation day.
- There will be no forest school after half term.

Have a lovely half term,

Shannon and Olivia 😊

Forest School Message

We started the session with an observational and creative activity called *10 Count*. The children worked independently to discover and write down specific numbers of things in nature and an interesting description to go with it. Then we came back together and amalgamated some of the ideas together to make a poem.

After this, we played a game called *Sticky Mole*. The children learnt some facts about moles including about their limited eyesight and use of touch to navigate underground. In small groups, the children took it in turns to pretend to be moles wearing blindfolds in a designated area and they had to try and avoid the 'sticky mole'. They had to rely on their other senses and if the 'sticky mole' caught them they had to link arms and find more moles. The children thought this game was great fun and they worked well together.

Back at the log circle, we discussed the upcoming festival of Lunar New Year. The children listened to Emma tell a story called 'The Four Dragons'. It is a Chinese folktale about four dragons who became China's four great rivers. The story is about the dragons' concern for the people of Earth and their efforts to bring rain during a time of drought. The children joined in with parts of the story and really enjoyed the tale.

For the rest of the session, some children chose to make a Chinese spinning rattle drum. This involved sawing a wood cookie with Emma using the bow saw. Then they needed to secure a handle and add string and beads to holes on the side to create the banging noise when the drum is spun. Making these took a lot of problem solving and perseverance. Other children worked out what zodiac animal they were (either a rooster or dog) and used special metal letter stamps to imprint their animal name in a small wooden disc. They held the letter stamp carefully and used a mallet to hit the stamp into the wood. In the morning, a group of children worked together to make a small fence around some of the daffodils beginning to appear in a corner of Forest School. They put a lot of effort into this and made a sign so people would be careful. In the afternoon, some children planted some snowdrops in the empty tyre plant pot. We are keeping our fingers crossed that the squirrels don't dig them up!

To conclude, each child had the opportunity to share what their main takeaways of Forest School have been this term. Emma shared that she has observed that the children have grown in independence, creativity, and their capacity for teamwork.

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We hope you all have a lovely half term break. Thanks again to Nicki for all her support this term.

Best wishes,

Carrie and Emma