

The last few days have been extremely warm and the children have been brilliant at applying their sun lotion and getting their hats without being prompted.

This week, we have been practising halving. We found out that our doubling work from last week helps us to find half of a total. At home, you might like to practise cutting play dough (or fruit) pieces into halves with your child. Your child could practise counting a total of objects that you give them - and they could split them into equal groups. Make sure you give them an even number! We have practised problems like 'Tom made six cupcakes. He ate half of them. How many did he eat?'

In our school's main garden area, we have looked at different vegetables and we discussed how they have grown. We harvested our radishes from our planter and we washed them indoors. After cutting each one in half, we tasted them. They were juicy and refreshing but not all of us enjoyed them! We also tasted (cooked) sweet potato and butternut squash. We were keen to eat fruit, too. For snack time, the daily fruit that is provided free of charge usually includes apples, pears, bananas, tomatoes and raisins. We also have carrots delivered, too. In class this week, we tasted fresh British strawberries and raspberries. They were delicious and we didn't have any waste for the compost bin.

We enjoyed our PE lesson in the morning this week (before it got too hot). We practised throwing with more precision, using targets to aim at. We also used our gross motor skills on the field equipment - an activity that we all enjoy.

In English, we have written our news and we have written sentences using the sounds that we are practising. We've also enjoyed listening to a range of texts including 'The Gruffalo' (an old favourite amongst the children), 'Supertato' and a book about the life cycle of chickens, called 'Egg to Chicken'. We will be bringing our 'grass caterpillars' home today. We have enjoyed using scissors to trim the grass but we have accidentally cut some of the material, too. It doesn't affect our lovely caterpillars, though! At home, the children should continue to water and cut the grass if they would like to keep their caterpillar.

Today, with Miss Rickards, we did performances during Drama, using freeze-frames and mimes. It was great fun! We also sang and danced. The look of joy on our faces was wonderful to see. 😊 Watch this space for the photographs!

Our bean plants are continuing to grow and some of them now have leaves!

NOTICES

Early Years Foundation Stage Profile

After half term, we will be making judgements about the children's development against the seventeen Early Learning Goals. **We will be required to say whether the children are 'emerging', 'at the expected level' or 'exceeding' in relation to each Early Learning Goal.** If children have not yet met an Early Learning Goal (i.e. they are assessed as 'emerging'), they will continue to work on those aspects of learning and development until they are more confident. I have attached the guidance sheets that Mrs Stevens handed out at the beginning of the year for 'Writing', 'Numbers' and 'Shape, Space and Measure' so that you can remind yourselves of what is expected for the ELG in those areas. I have also photocopied the Reading element from the 'Development Matters' document so that you can see what is required for reading.

School Website

The new school website is up and running. You can find it at www.ellwoodschool.co.uk. Over the half term holiday, I will be updating our class page with news and lots of photographs.

Lost Property

Please keep looking for Elsie's cardigan. It has her name on the label. Thank you.

Riley's sun cap has been found. ☺

We have a selection of cardigans and jumpers in the classroom but unfortunately, they are not named. **Please ensure that you add your child's name to all of their belongings.**

Please let us know if you would like anything added to the newsletter.

Don't forget that I am available at the end of each day (when all of the children have been safely collected) if you wish to discuss anything.

I hope that you have a wonderful week together and I hope that the sun continues to shine. I'll look forward to welcoming the children back on Monday 5th June for their final half term in Oak Class.

Many thanks,

Mrs. S Breakwell