

Dear parents/carers,

This week...

We have had a lovely week learning all about Spring and growing. The children showed great curiosity as we explored how plants grow and what they need to stay healthy. We planted cress seeds and discussed the life cycle of a plant, learning how seeds grow into plants over time.

We shared the story *Oliver's Vegetables* by Vivian French. The children really enjoyed listening to the story and talking about the different vegetables Oliver tried for the first time. We also discussed which vegetables we like and which we do not like, encouraging the children to express their preferences.

In our creative activities, the children painted beautiful flowers, printed using a variety of vegetables, and explored different herbs using their senses - smelling, touching and describing how they felt.

In maths, we focused on developing problem-solving and spatial skills through jigsaw puzzles. The children also explored the concepts of heavy and light and were introduced to the balancing scale, beginning to understand how weight can be compared.

In phonics, we introduced alliteration by using the children's names, for example: *Millie - Mia*, helping them to recognise words that begin with the same sound.

It has been a busy and engaging week full of hands-on learning and exploration.

Next...

We will continue learning about growing and plants. Our new focus story will be *Jasper's Beanstalk* by Nick Butterworth.

- The children will be exploring:
- Planting beans and watching them grow into beanstalks
- Learning more about seeds and what they need to grow
- Cutting and exploring Spring leaves
- Exploring frozen herbs through sensory play
- Measuring the growth of our beanstalks

In maths, we will continue to develop problem-solving and spatial skills through jigsaw puzzles and practical activities. We will also explore the concept of height by comparing tall and short, measuring our beanstalks as they grow and even measuring ourselves.

In phonics, we will continue to focus on recognising the same initial sounds in words. We encourage you to practise this at home with your child.

Any other business

- Please ensure that any small round foods such as cherry tomatoes or grapes are cut in half lengthways to reduce the risk of choking.
- Please continue to provide your child with spare clothes in their bag.
- We would also greatly appreciate any contributions to our sensory play resources, such as herbs or other suitable materials.

Thank you for your continued support.

Marina and Belinda 😊