

Dear parents/carers,

This week...

The children really enjoyed learning about bees and exploring fascinating facts about how they help our environment. We introduced new vocabulary such as *nectar* and *pollination*, and the children were very engaged in understanding how bees collect nectar and help flowers to grow.

The children:

- Painted their favourite minibeasts, expressing their creativity through colour and design
- Explored sensory painting by creating beehive patterns using bubble wrap and paint
- Enjoyed a bee-themed sensory tray, encouraging imaginative play and discussion
- Took part in a maths activity where they helped bees move honey (yellow pompoms) into numbered beehives, supporting their understanding of counting and quantity matching

Next week..

We will begin a new story: ***The Very Lazy Ladybird by Isobel Finn***. Through the story, we will explore what happens when the ladybird chooses not to fly and instead clings onto other animals, leading to a bumpy journey. We will discuss the importance of making good choices and trying things independently.

The children will:

- Create ladybirds using a variety of tools and materials
- Learn interesting facts about ladybirds, including how their spots can be different and how they help plants by eating small insects like aphids
- Take part in exciting maths activities by counting and matching the ladybird's spots

In maths, we will focus on:

- Counting and quantity matching through hands-on activities
- Developing confidence when recognising numbers
- In phonics, we will continue exploring initial sounds through fun listening games and activities.

Reminders

Please continue supporting your child at home by helping them recognise their name. You could:

- Hide their name cards around the house for them to find
- Put their name on their bedroom door
- Encourage them to trace or copy the letters in their name

You can also support your child's phonics development by:

- Playing sound games and identifying initial sounds in words
- Encouraging your child to think of words that begin with the same sound

Some simple games you could play at home include:

- Silly Soup - collect objects or pictures beginning with the same sound and pretend to make "soup"
- I Spy - "I spy something beginning with..."

We also encourage children to develop independence at mealtimes. Please support your child to practise cutting their food at home using a fork and a child-friendly knife (such as a butter knife).

Thank you for your continued support.
Marina and Belinda 😊