

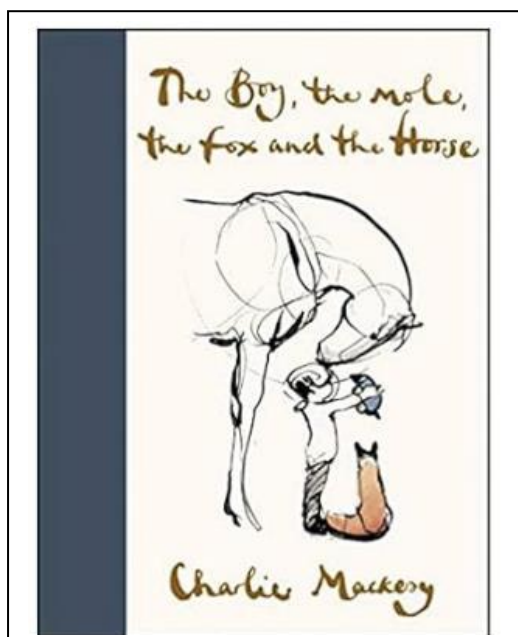


Curriculum News - Spring One - 2025

Communication & Language

This half term, we are pleased to welcome some new friends to nursery. To help them settle in, we have revised vocabulary linked to the routines of the day, such as gathering, key group time and listening time.

The children have used their inquiring minds to ask questions about the different animals they have come across, through our learning about habitats. We have also been using Makaton with the children, learning animal names and language linked to celebrations, such as Lunar New Year.



The ZONES of Regulation			
Blue Zone Sad Bored Tired Sick	Green Zone Happy Focused Calm Proud	Yellow Zone Worried Frustrated Silly Excited	Red Zone overjoyed/Elated Panicked Angry Terrified

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

We celebrated Children's Mental Health Fortnight by showing, "The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse." The story draws on positive aspects such as believing in oneself, kindness, hope and friendship.

We talked about our feelings and discussed different strategies we can use to make ourselves feel better and calm down, when feeling a range of emotions, such as breathing.

We have celebrated the beliefs of others, through learning about Lunar New Year and revisited the Zones of Regulation.

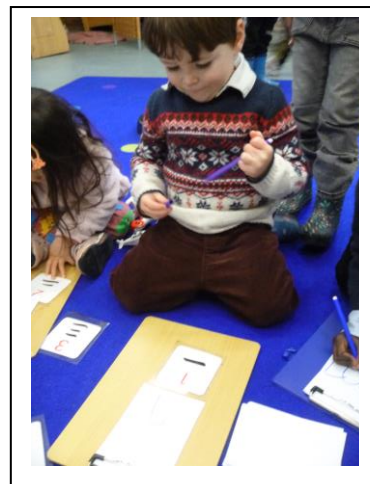
Mathematics

In Mathematics, we have continued counting objects and learning about numbers from 0-5.

We have been exploring sequences, using our daily timetable to think about what is happening now, next and then. The children have enjoyed ordering the pictures on a washing line.

Some children also had a go at writing Chinese numerals.

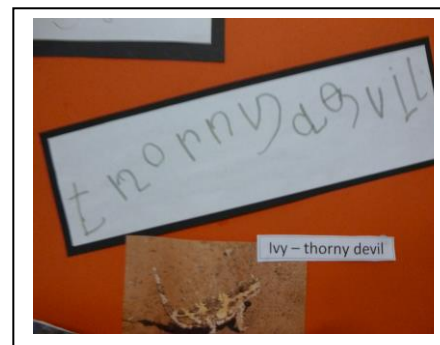
During our topic on habitats, the children sorted animals using a variety of criteria, from colour to size.



Literacy

In Literacy, some of the children have been writing labels to go with pictures of desert and rainforest animals in Australia. This activity encouraged the children to look closely at shape of the letters in the words and carefully use their mark making and writing skills to write their own words, some using recognisable letters.

We have also read a wealth of information and story books about polar regions, rainforest and desert habitats, Lunar New Year and health and self-care. This term, the children have shown a real interest in reading and finding their names, either in the alphabet pouch in the writing area, or when finding their seat at lunch time.



Physical Development

The children have been exploring obstacle courses, using their gross motor skills to travel over and under equipment, such as the tunnel and A-frames.

We also planned new challenges for the children, such as hitting an overhead target and using their upper body strength to pull a ball along a rope.

We have continued working towards our sustainability goals by repurposing the Christmas tree. We created an Australian rainforest, under the umbrella, cut wood for our fires and erected a tent made from pine in the mud kitchen. The children used their fine motor skills to carefully cut down the branches and to separate the pines leaves.

Reminders and Thank you!

Snack time

Please can all grapes and strawberries be cut into quarters for the children's snack.

Amazon Wish List

As you may be aware we have a COA Amazon Wish List, which we periodically update. We have recently added new items, to support our learning.

[Amazon.co.uk](https://www.amazon.co.uk)

Thank you!

A big thank you to all the parent volunteers we have had accompany us on our offsite Forest School trips.

We would also like to thank parents who have come in to perform music and speak to the children as part of our Health and self-care topic.

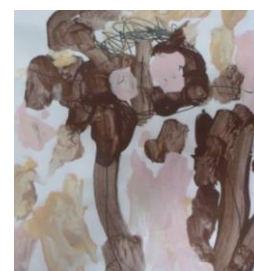
It is much appreciated!!

Expressive Arts and Design

In Expressive Arts and Design, the children explored using different textures in their artwork. A collaborative piece, representing an Australian desert now hangs in the studio.

Outside on the easel, the children painted with colours associated with different habitats; for example, blue and white paint for the polar regions and green and yellow for the rainforest and desert.

We have talked about emotions and facial expressions, through painting our self-portraits.



Understanding the World

In Understanding the World, we have looked at the role of people who help us in our community, such as doctors, dentists, parents, nurses and lifeguards.

We were lucky to be visited by a parent doctor who brought in some of the apparatus they use for their role. The children got to explore stethoscopes, bandages and thermometers.

We thought about activities that support our health and self-care such as listening to music. We were treated to a piano and cello performance, which the children thoroughly enjoyed.