



What have we been doing this month?

May 2015

This month has been all about exploring using our senses. The children have enjoyed play dough made from jelly, different textures to make collages with and coloured and scented glue. If you would like to make your own play dough at home this is the recipe we use at preschool. <http://www.modernparentsmessykids.com/2012/05/play-dough.html>

We have been encouraging all the children to be kind and thoughtful towards each other. We talk them in the morning, during registration, about using kind hands and kind words and how being unkind can make us feel. We reinforce this throughout the day and we often hear the children telling each other to use their kind words.

The countdown to school is on and the leavers have been working hard on their workbooks to show Mrs Woodward just how clever they are. The workbooks look at, numbers, letters, what is important to the children and patterns amongst other things and will give Mrs Woodward a good understanding of the level the children are working at. This year we are trying something new to support the transition. We will be giving the children's observation folders as well as a report to Mrs Woodward so she can look at their achievements and see what support they may need to be able to meet their next steps. Once she feels she has the evidence she needs she will pass the books on to you so you have them as a keepsake of their time in preschool.

PE is proving very popular as is French and Kate will be alternating her days between Monday and Wednesdays so more children get the opportunity to take part in learning French. Miss Alison is pleased with the children who attend the library and Miss Estelle always has a queue for circuits!

We will be introducing shared reading after half term for the school leavers. Each child will bring home a book to read with you and a worksheet to complete, if they want to. We will also provide a book so you can write any feedback about your child's thoughts on the book and worksheet. If your child is not leaving for school but you think they might enjoy shared reading then please do speak to their key person and they can arrange for them to take part too.

We are encouraging all the children to practice their fine motor skills using a range of activities. We have had pegs and scissors in the play dough, tweezers with pasta, lentils and hidden objects to pick out and mark making to name a few. We are also encouraging them to give meanings to the marks they make and where possible we will write this on their work so you can talk to them about it too.

If you would like to see your child's observation folder please do speak to their key person who will book a convenient slot for you.