

Class 1 Weekly Update- Friday 5th October 2018

Thank you to everyone who came to the Curriculum Evening. It was lovely to see so many of you and hopefully answer some of your questions and concerns.

It has been an unusual week with children coming and going with tummy bugs. Hopefully next week we will be back to a full class.

This week we read the Story Orchestra book in which the little girl carries an apple tree sapling but then drops it in the river. At the end of the story she discovers an apple seed and plants it to grow another tree. We used this book as our stimulus for most of this week's work and as our focus for Harvest.

We predicted whether apples sink or float and then put them in some water to find out. The children were amazed when they saw them float. They assumed that apples would sink because they are smooth and heavy. We discussed other smooth and heavy items to disprove this theory.

We used the apples to make printed pictures. The results were varied. Many of the children found printing tricky and tried to use the apple like a brush! We managed to successfully print the letters to spell Harvest.

This week I have introduced the children to adjectives. They have created a bank of apple adjectives as a class. Then they went on to use their senses to write apple poems, applying the adjectives. They are still very young to fully understand what an adjective is and many gave the adjective and a noun when asked for one word to describe the apple (sugary flesh, smooth skin). We will continue to work on this.

We also used apples as a measuring unit. The children put a stick at their partner's head and feet and then measured how many apples tall they were. They then had to draw themselves at the correct height on an apple chart.

In phonics we started the week learning the long 'i' sound but then changed our plans. We were discussing split digraphs and it quickly became apparent that we need to spend some quality time focussing on these. As previously mentioned, the children find them really tricky to read and spell. We have been learning how the short vowel sound changes to a long vowel sound when an 'e' is added to the end (hop-hope, mad-made).

Finally, Thursday was National Poetry Day so we learnt a poem about raindrops and performed it in assembly. We also wrote our own pieces of writing about different weather types and tried to add some adjectives for extra detail.

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