



Our Learning



This Week

Monday 5th February to Friday 9th February

This week we have really enjoyed exploring our heart collection and learning about their similarities and differences. We used important investigative skills to discover that materials have different properties, behave in different ways and can be man-made or natural. Whilst handling the hearts, new scientific vocabulary and concepts were introduced about the materials that they were made from. We discovered that the glass hearts in our collection were transparent. After this we talked about the fact that a heart is a symbol of love and discussed our feelings and who we loved. We had a great time using claves to tap out the rhythm of one of our favourite stories 'Going on a Bear Hunt'. Hearing and using rhythm help to develop our early literacy skills. We extended this learning by enacting the story in the garden. It was wonderful to see the children joining in with repeated refrains, remembering the storyline and having fun which will help them to foster a lifelong love of books which is such a significant pre-reading skill.



Next Week

Tuesday 20th February - Friday 23rd February

When we return after half term we will be beginning our Multicultural Fortnight. During this time, we are going to look at books from different cultures and countries. Some of our parents will be visiting to share some wonderful books from their homelands. This will build the children's knowledge of the world we live in, provide opportunities for children to talk about their families, customs, traditions and help develop a positive attitude about the differences between people. We will be continuing to consolidate our understanding of number to 5 by re-capping our previous learning, particularly looking at how numbers can be composed of smaller numbers. This will include singing songs up to five such as 'Five Little Monkeys Swinging in the Tree' and 'Five Green and Speckled Frogs.'

At Home

Over half term have fun playing simple dice games. Playing games like this helps to develop children's subitising (this means knowing how many there are in a group without having to count them). They may count them at first but in time will come to recognize the quantity instantly. We would love it if you could bring in photos of different places you have visited and family customs you have celebrated for the children to share with their friends. Happy Chinese New Year to our families who are celebrating over half term. Enjoy Pancake Day especially eating pancakes yummy! This week our key words are **country, map, cultures, celebration, and Chinese New Year.**