

# A MESSAGE FROM RECEPTION



Reception children have had a brilliant start to their learning journey. The first few weeks of getting to know each other and settling in to school life went so well. We are so proud of all of them!

Children have quickly learnt the routines and expectations for phonics teaching and learning - they arrive eager for their sessions, listen well and give all tasks a go. We are so impressed with how they are linking letters to sounds, segmenting and blending orally and even beginning to word read - just WOW!

We couldn't get through a day in reception without our noses in a good book! Over the half term we've been so busy getting to know stories well and have developed some firm favourites.

Anyone for porridge!? We know a particular girl that is partial to a bowl that is 'just right' but what's your favourite food? 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears' not only introduced us to important narrative structures but also inspired a wonderful exploration of favourite foods as well as sketches and discussions about the special people in our own families.

We know the repeated rehearsal to 'It's My Birthday' by Helen Oxenbury off by heart and the story inspired recipe, card and invitation writing, birthday role-play and even baking real birthday cakes - delicious.



'Monkey and Me' we went to see... Emily Gravett's wonderful tale of a little girl's animal antics with her most treasured toy has been read and reread here in Reception. We love the rhyme and repetition and have enjoyed innovating the story to include our own special toys. We have worked hard orally rehearsing lines from the story, getting ready to have a go at our first piece of narrative writing!

Our 'Booknic' with our year six friends was a real highlight where we enjoyed book browsing and sharing some quality stories with them on a picnic blanket on the school field. We even prepared for the occasion by making sandwiches and icing biscuits. It's fair to say the event was a hit with all the children!



Thank you to all the parents and carers that have attended our Reception reading meetings. It's so important that you hear about our approach and provision at Mile Oak so that you are fully equipped to support your child at home. Please come and see us if you couldn't make it; it's through working together that your children will thrive in their reading.

As if that wasn't enough, the children have become such independent learners in our environments. They love playing and learning together both inside and outside. The role play areas are always busy and the recent car wash, with real water, has been a particular favourite!

Our topic has been brought to life by several very special baby visitors- thank you to all the families that supported this! All the baby photographs have been a joy to share and the children have been making links with their own pasts through talking about how they have changed since they were little. The school nurse has also been to see us to support this concept.

Please continue to name everything as we enter the period of hats, gloves and warm coats! We will be learning outside as well as inside, so please dress your children appropriately. As a little preview our next topic is called 'It's getting darker'. As the weather changes and the seasons flow, we will explore festivals and celebrations from around the world and explore nature and our local habitats, including our forest school area. We can't wait to see where our learning and our stories will take us next half term!