Year 2 updates 6th Jan – 16th Jan 2025

We were very excited to welcome the children back to Montessori after the Christmas break. The children spent time reconnecting with one another and telling each other all about the lovely time they had with their families over Christmas.

We have started to explore shapes this fortnight, using our Montessori sensorial materials as a starting point. The children have matched 3D shapes to their matching 2D outline, named different shapes in the Montessori presentation tray and explored the wooden 3D geometric solids.

They have also used various shaped puzzles from the interest shelves and noted the shapes of things all around them in the environment. The children explored a variety of 3D boxes – which were many different shapes and sizes. They drew around the boxes to create pictures on large pieces of paper. The children spread themselves out on the floor, to have their own space, and used big movements to navigate around the paper and draw the outlines of the boxes. This showed the children that 3d shapes are made up of 2d shapes.

Year 2 have also started our ‘Smart Start’ activities each morning. These are started promptly at 9.15, and the children remove their shoes and socks to take part in various sequences of movements, as part of the activities. They then put their socks and shoes back on afterwards. As well as being a fun and engaging start to the day, these activities really help to support the children with their care of self-skills. Please ensure that the children do not wear laced shoes, or boots when in nursery, to enable them to become independent with this skill.

Finally, the children have been observing the change of season – with the arrival of the ice. We made ice pictures, by collecting natural objects, placing them in a tray and adding water. We left it in a safe place in the garden overnight and when we checked the following morning – the picture had frozen. The water had captured all of the natural objects and created an icy freeze. We also found ice in other parts of the garden too. We brought the ice picture inside and the children predicted it would melt. Sure enough, by lunchtime, the ice had melted and turned into water once more. What an exciting fortnight we had!