

# Reception Weekly Learning Update 24<sup>th</sup> September 2021



The children have been settling so well into school. This week we have been doing lots of supporting the children in the areas of provision. We have been modelling how to use the equipment and how to tidy it away. We looked at pictures of a messy classroom and talked about why we should tidy up (just to reiterate what was said on the curriculum zoom). If your child gets a sticker for tidying up it is actually a fantastic thing and you should feel very proud. They are showing skills that they listen, follow instructions, match objects to silhouettes, count the correct number, sort objects back into the correct basket, work collaboratively and negotiate where things go.

# Self-regulation

This week the children have been putting their name pebble onto a feeling, either happy, calm, angry or sad (linked to the Colour Monster). It's an emotions check in. We then go and have a look so we can have a little chat with the children on a one to one about how they are feeling, why they might be feeling that way and what we can do to help.

# The Colour Monster

Our main story this week has been 'The Colour Monster'. (We have also read, 'The Colour Monster goes to School'.) The Colour Monster is an examination of emotions and feelings. The poor monster arrives at the beginning of the book feeling every emotion and completely confused by it all. So, the monster's friend, helps him identify and separate each emotion out. Each of the main emotions are addressed, defined and associated with its own colour. We have yellow for happiness, blue for sadness, red for anger, black for fear and green for calm. It's helpful for the children to associate a feeling with a visual element such as colour and is a good way to understand and get to grips with an intangible thing. The little twist at the end is also a delightful thing.

# **Family**

We have been talking about how we are all different and special and we have discussed how there are lots of different types of families. We have learnt a new word, 'unique'. This week the children have been telling us about their families and have drawn who is in their family (or who or what they want in their family in some cases!).

### The 5 Senses

We have been talking to the children about our five senses-seeing, hearing, smelling, tasting, and touching and how they help us notice the world around us. The children tasted and sorted the foods (lemon, popcorn, dark chocolate) into sour, salty, sweet and bitter. They had turns at the 'smelling pots' to try and guess what was inside just using their sense of smell. Look out on Seesaw for the photos. We also explored our sense of touch by putting on blindfolds and trying to guess what it was we could feel. We drew pictures with our eyes covered to help us understand how we use our sense of sight. The children had to listen to instruments played behind a screen and guess which ones they were (without seeing them) to test out their sense of hearing.

### Next week...

We will be holding a phonics meeting on Thursday 30th September at 6.00 p.m. where you will have the chance to see how we teach phonics and how you can help at home

P.S. We start PE next week!!!