

Curriculum Newsletter Summer 2010

"Storytime Adventures"

This term (terms 5 and 6) we are aiming to further develop the children's language for thinking through their enjoyment of stories and enhancing their understanding of how stories work.

We were inspired by an article "Explaining Creative and Critical Thinking Through Story". We have introduced Jacques and Roger (two puppets) into Nursery under mysterious circumstances to inspire the children to build stories around them. Watch out for pictures, stories and books about them, ask your child if they have met either of them.

Some of the experiences we are planning include

- Developing the children's imaginative skills in building a world around Jacques and Roger.
- Introducing Post Office role play to develop reading and writing skills through receiving and sending postcards and letters, helping Jacques and Roger keep in touch with their families and share their adventures.
- Developing mathematical skills and concepts through the Post Office role play in weighing and measuring, sorting. Sizes of paper for wrapping parcels, use of balances and weighing scales, providing the correct technical language to express the details. Buying stamps etc.
- A visit to Didcot sorting office to learn more about our community and the jobs people do.
- Using flip cameras to record the children's guided tour of their favourite parts of Nursery.
- Virtual tours of Jacques and Roger's home towns (we have recently discovered that Jacques is French!).
- Inviting visitors into Nursery to tell us about their work, postman, nurse etc.
- Designing and making a new flag for our flagpole.
- Talking about our sun-safe policy - wearing hats, drinking water when thirsty and hot, using sun-cream. Thinking about how our bodies feel after exercise through, for example, sports day in term 6
- Introducing story sacks with exciting stories, non-fiction books and supporting games.

Some of the stories we may use are

Handa's Surprise - comparing quantities - addition, subtraction

Rosie's Walk - how far, positional language, community

My Mum and Dad Make me Laugh - pattern and symmetry

Titch - growing

A New House for Mouse - size and shape language

People Who Help Us - Postman, Nurse

Jolly Postman - Fairy stories, sending and receiving post.

As always we welcome your ideas and suggestions for activities or experiences as well as your help in the classroom. Please remember if your child tells you anything interesting about what they have done or are doing as a result of conversations at home, tell us via the 'Share With Us box'. Also please share with us any ideas they may have about adventures for Jacques and Roger.