

Kindergarten Newsletter 17th October 2025
Autumn 1 Topic - Space

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This week, our SCARF lesson combined with a little phonics and writing! We have been talking a lot lately about learning new things, and continuing to try when things are tricky, building our resilience and 'can do' attitudes. Today we talked again about practicing new skills and keeping on trying, then learned about the sound 'a' at the beginning of astronaut, ant and apple. The children then worked in groups of 3 to use a whiteboard and write the letters, sharing resources and encouraging each other to 'try their best'. Great efforts by all the children and it was lovely to see them supporting one another and being proud of their efforts.

Literacy, Communication and Language

In Monster Phonics this week, we continued with environmental sounds by playing sound Bingo. The children played this game in pairs, taking it in turns to cover their picture if it matched the sound made. The children were encouraged to make some of the different sounds, experimenting with the shape of their mouth.

In French, the children have been exploring colours in French. Madam Tourigny read them a book in French and the children had a go at pronouncing the different colours in French.

Mathematics

This week, during circle time the children have continued rote counting to 5 and back down again. Rote counting is hugely important for the children because it builds a foundational understanding of numbers and their order, which is crucial for future math skills like addition, subtraction, and place value. It helps children develop number sense, confidence with numbers, and can be a stepping stone to more complex maths concepts by establishing the correct sequence of numbers.

The children were thinking about mathematical language this week, focusing on which pictures were the biggest or smallest, colour coding each appropriately. Additionally, we lined the class up to see who was the tallest and who was the smallest.

We also used an I Spy activity to practice our counting and observation skills. The children had a page of various space pictures and had to look for and count selected pictures. The children worked out their own methods to do this using dry erase markers...some circled objects, others ticked or coloured over them while they counted. Some children even made great attempts at recording the numbers they had counted!

Understanding the World

This week, the children showcased their learning about space by singing their space songs to their grown ups and sharing their learning journals with them during Open Afternoon. To end the half term, the children enjoyed their Space Party, where they completed a scavenger hunt, made space biscuits and had a glow disco!

In Forest School, the children continued the party...pretending we were astronauts and practising how they move in space, helping an alien fly into space with the help of a parachute, and flying the rockets we made earlier in the day!

Physical Development

In our fine motor activities, the children have been bubble wrap popping, making constellations with marshmallows and cocktail sticks, matching space pictures on duplo bricks, washing moon rocks with toothbrushes and rolling and cutting space themed biscuits!

For our gross motor skills, we practiced jumping over small hurdles and controlling the football with small kicks during our lessons with Altrincham Football. We then took a big run up to kick the football into the net.

Expressive Arts and Design

In Mrs Thomson's art, the children experimented with string, making beautifully coloured string paintings.

Information/reminders:

Please check Tapestry for optional half term activities.

On Wednesday 12th November, we are excited to be taking part in Bellevue's Nursery Rhyme Week Festival – a celebration of music, connection, and community! This special event will bring together five of our Bellevue nurseries for a fun-filled 25-minute virtual session where each nursery will have the chance to share a nursery rhyme or song, and enjoy listening to performances from others. It's a lovely way for children to express themselves, build confidence, and feel part of a wider early years community. If this is something you do not want your child to participate in, please email Mrs Budd (bbudd@forestschoo.co.uk).

We have had a lovely half term getting to know the class and we wish all of the Kindergarten children and their families a wonderful and restful half term.

Very best wishes, *Mrs Budd, Mrs Singer and Miss Naylor*