



Last week, in our Autumn topic we discussed how dark it is earlier in the day. We read the story of the Owl who was Afraid of the Dark and realised that the dark isn't too scary after all. The children used pastels to make fireworks pictures and made shadow puppets to use in our 'shadow theatre'.

This week in Drawing Club we will explore the traditional story 'The Enormous Turnip'.

Phonics

This week we will continue practising the sounds from sets 1-4 while the children are assessed to ensure they are ready for the next sets of sounds. We have been working with the children to get them to identify and write the first sounds in words. You can support your child by getting them to say the first sound they can hear in an object eg. cup- what is the first sound? If your child is having difficulty identifying the sound then get a group of objects with the same first sound and tell them what the sound is.

Maths– circles and triangles

This week, we will be learning about shapes focusing on circles and triangles. Can your children find those shapes around the house or on the way home from school? We will also focus on positional language of over, under, behind, on, through, between. You could use this language with your children while they are tidying up. Put your coat **on** the hook. Put the box **under** the table. Put that book **between** this book and that book....

Curriculum Focus: Drawing club

Drawing Club is an exciting way of introducing stories to children while exploring language, fine motor skills, creativity, imagination, writing and maths. Each session begins with introducing challenging vocabulary associated with the story used in that week. The children learn what each word means as well as actions to help them remember the word.

After the story is read or told, drawing club begins- the adult shows the children how to draw something simple, usually a character or setting, and the children have turns to 'join the club' and draw their own picture while supported by the adult. More details get added as the children progress through the year. A 'code' is then added to the drawing which makes something amazing happen (in our imagination of course!). For example, if we write 3 of our new sounds and draw 5 lines the giant will shrink to the size of an ant! The children become inspired to create all sorts of imaginative scenarios for what could happen to the character in their story, as well as getting a chance to practise their fine motor, drawing, maths and writing skills. We have already seen improvements in the children's drawing from earlier drawing club sessions and their enthusiasm has been amazing!

Drawing Club will usually take place for 3 sessions on alternate weeks to topic. This week we are using the story of 'The Enormous Turnip.'

Thank you for your continued support.

