

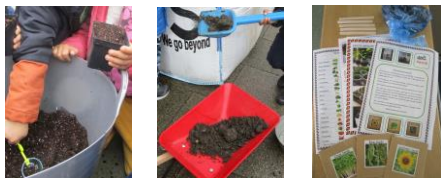
News and updates from Clouds, Rainbows and Stars – February/March 2023

Our Core Books and The Garden

The children have enjoyed many books this term, including our Core Books, 'Errol's Garden' by Gillian Hibbs, and two traditional stories, 'The Enormous Turnip' and 'Jack and the Beanstalk'.



The Core Books have focused on the garden as this is the season when we plan what we will grow and start making preparations. In 'Errol's Garden', the neighbours in a community come together to plan a garden using their different skills. We have been planning our garden together with the children deciding some of the plants that we will grow, including potatoes, broccoli, pumpkins and beans.



We recently had a large soil delivery to fill up our different growing beds. The children enjoyed transporting the soil from outside the nursery to the growing area. We have also begun planting some seeds, especially beans, linking with our Core Book. The children have all received a growing pack with ideas for growing seeds at home, along with some bean, sunflower and cress seeds, some soil and lolly sticks to make plant labels.

For more information about the children's learning, please visit

<https://grovenurseryschool.co.uk/>

You can also find out about what the children have been learning on Twitter at

https://twitter.com/nursery_grove

World Book Day

We celebrated World Book Day recently by bringing books to life through sharing stories and information books. Children were involved with creative activities linked to stories, such as building houses for 'The Three Little Pigs' and making bread with 'The Little Red Hen'. The staff acted out the story of 'The Three Little Pigs', and the children enjoyed seeing the adults play the different characters. We also had a visit from the book publishers, Penguin, who shared a new story with us. A big thank you to all the parents and family members who came in and shared books with the children during this time.



British Science Week

To celebrate science, technology, engineering and maths, children and families enjoyed a range of fun, science-based activities at our Science Stay and Play. The children explored:

- Light and dark in a dark den with torches.
- Gravity with a giant marble run and vehicles on ramps.
- Force with a stomp ball launcher.
- Changes in materials by making slime with cupboard ingredients.
- How substances interact and cause change through giant bubbles and fizz experiments.
- Natural science through planting seeds, bug hunts and looking for signs of spring.

Here are some of the children's enthusiastic responses to the activities:

"That's so cool."

"Wow. Can I have a turn too?"

"That was incredible!"



♪ End of Term Singalong ♪

We have been learning some Core Songs this half-term: 'This Is The Way We Plant The Seeds', 'Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes' and 'Singing In The Rain'. We are also learning to sing and sign 'Hot Cross Buns' ready for Easter. We are going to share these with you at our 'Sing-a-long' on Tuesday (28th March) and Thursday (31st March) at 2.30pm, so please come and join us for this and some Easter games.

Spring 2 Singalong

This Is The Way We Plant The Seeds

This is the way we plant the seeds,
Plant the seeds, plant the seeds.
This is the way we plant the seeds on a
sunny afternoon.

This is the way we water the seeds.....

This is the way the sun shines down.....

This is the way we watch and wait.....

This is the way we see them grow.....



Heads, Shoulders, Knees and Toes

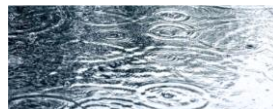
Heads, shoulders, knees and toes,
Knees and toes.
Heads, shoulders, knees and toes,
Knees and toes.
And eyes and ears and mouth and nose.
Heads, shoulders, knees and toes,
Knees and toes.



Singing In The Rain

I'm singing in the rain, just singing in the rain.
What a glorious feeling, I'm happy again!
Leader: Hang about. Follower: Hang about.
Leader: Arms out. Follower: Arms out.
Together: Tofa, tofa, tofa, tofa, tofa, tofa,
I said tofa, tofa, tofa, tofa, tofa, tofa

I'm singing in the rain, just singing in the rain.
What a glorious feeling, I'm happy again!
Leader: Hang about. Follower: Hang about.
Leader: Arms out. Follower: Arms out.
Leader: Thumbs up. Follower: Thumbs up.
Together: Tofa, tofa, tofa, tofa, tofa, tofa,
I said tofa, tofa, tofa, tofa, tofa, tofa
(Repeat progressively adding the following actions)
Elbows together. Knees together.
Bottoms out. Tongues out.



Hot Cross Buns

Hot cross buns, hot cross buns,
One a penny, two a penny, hot cross buns.
If you have no daughters,
Give them to your sons.
One a penny, two a penny, hot cross buns.



Springo!

It is lovely to see the brighter, lighter days of Spring with blossom appearing on the trees and the bees buzzing in the first Spring flowers. The garden at nursery is changing with flowers blooming and robins nesting. We have starting playing the Springo! challenge at nursery and encourage you to do the same at home. Don't forget to send some photos of what you find to your child's key person!



Donations



We like to use real resources in the nursery, so if you have any of the following you no longer want, we would be grateful for some donations: pots, pans, wooden spoons, odd cutlery, old cordless phones, old digital cameras, bangles, beads, hats, fabric bags, baking trays, mixing bowls, jar lids, old keys, envelopes, wool, ribbons, wood offcuts, cake cases, hand soap containers, old cultural clothing, plant pots, etc.

Dates for your diary

The Easter break is 3rd-14th April 2023
(inclusive).

1PW and FT children return on
Monday 17th April (1PW is Mon/Tue/Wed).

2PW children come back on
Thursday 20th April (2PW is Thu/Fri).

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The end of term Singalong is at 2.30pm on  
**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March (1PW & FT)** and  
**Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March (2PW & FT).**

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We have our termly **Parent Conference meetings** on **Wednesday 29th March** – this is an opportunity to talk to your child's key person about their learning and progress. There will be no nursery session on this day.



Feel-Good/Sensory Garden

We are developing an area of the Nursery garden that is currently not being used, to create a Feel-Good Garden. The Feel-Good Garden will become a peaceful and soothing space where children can use their senses to feel relaxed and calm. We need to make this area nice – clean it, make raised beds, plants herbs and flowers and install a water feature. It would be wonderful to involve our children and families in the development of The Feel-Good Garden. If you have an hour or two to spare after Easter (during the school day) do let Sarah or Claire know. Thank you.