

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

**Our Core Books**

The children enjoy hearing and learning stories, poems and rhymes. Here is a some of what we have been learning linked to this term's Core Books:

**We're Going on a Bear Hunt**

The children have enjoyed this story, especially joining in with the repeated refrains, and telling it as they moved around different parts of the garden.



**Goldilocks and the Three Bears**

We have shared different versions of the story of Goldilocks, including Ghanaian Goldilocks, where he eats fufu and palm nut stew instead of porridge. The children enjoyed making porridge and it was a nice, warm treat at snack time.



**The Three Little Pigs**

This story is not only great for retelling as it has so many memorable phrases and the children love running from the 'big bad wolf', but it has also inspired lots of building with blocks and loose parts.



*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](https://twitter.com/nursery_grove)

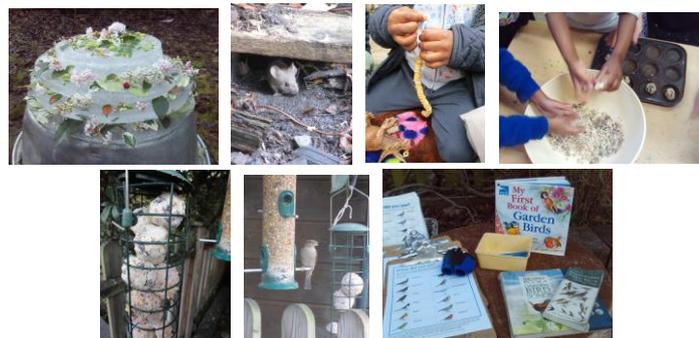
**Lunar New Year**

We celebrated Lunar New Year recently and 2023 is 'The Year of the Rabbit'. The children enjoyed looking at the objects linked to Lunar New Year, cleaning and decorating the house and making a dragon for a dragon dance. They listened to the Lunar New Year stories about the animal race naming the new year and about Nian. We even had a wonderful decorated café set up in the garden, serving Chinese food.



**The Garden**

We have been enjoying the garden during the Winter. There have been further opportunities to explore ice and frost, making and decorating ice cakes and looking through ice windows.



We have enjoyed lots of visitors in the garden, including a family of mice and different kinds of birds. We took part in the Big Schools Birdwatch, recording the birds we could see in the garden including house sparrows, crows, great tits and a robin. To encourage more birds into the garden, we have been making different kinds of bird food, including fat balls and threaded cereal and fruit.

**Snacks**

We would like to thank you for all the healthy snacks you bring for the children including fruit, crackers, bread and cheese. As we have some children with allergies and we want to promote healthy food, please do not bring sweet snacks or crisps or those containing nuts or sesame. Also, please do not put snacks in children's bags. Thank you.



## 🎵 End of Term Sing-A-Long 🎵

We have been learning some Core Songs this half-term: 'If You're Happy And You Know It' and two songs from Ghana – 'Obwisana' and 'Kye Kye Kule'. We would love to sing these songs for you and with you at our Sing-a-long on Tuesday (7<sup>th</sup> Feb) and Thursday (9<sup>th</sup> Feb) at 2.30pm, so please come and join us.

### Spring 1 Sing-A-Long

#### If You're Happy And You Know It

☺  
If you're happy and you know it,  
clap your hands (clap clap),  
If you're happy and you know it,  
clap your hands (clap clap),  
If you're happy and you know it  
and you really want to show it,  
If you're happy and you know it,  
clap your hands (clap clap). 🙌

👣 If you're happy and you know  
it,  
stamp your feet (stamp stamp).....  
👣

👂 If you're happy and you know it,  
nod your head (nod nod)..... 🙄

🔄 If you're happy and you know it,  
turn around (turn turn)..... 🔄

🎉 If you're happy and you  
know it,  
shout hooray - Hooray!.....  
🎉

If you're happy and you know it,  
Do all five (clap clap stamp stamp  
nod nod turn turn) Hooray!.....  
🙌 👣 🙄 🔄 🎉

#### Obwisana

Obwisana sa nana  
Obwisana sa  
Obwisana sa nana  
Obwisana sa.



#### Kye Kye Kule

Call: Kye kye kule  
Response: Kye kye kule

Call: Kye kye Kofi sa  
Response: Kye kye Kofi sa

Call: Kofi sa langa  
Response: Kofi sa langa

Call: Kaka shi langa  
Response: Kaka shi langa

Call: Kum Adende  
Response: Kum Adende

Everyone:  
Kum Adende  
Kum Adende  
Kum Adende, hey!



## Fire Station

Some of the children had the opportunity to visit the fire station and meet some of the firefighters. They learned about the fire engine, the protective clothes worn by the firefighters, and they had the opportunity to use the hose. The children (and parents) had a great time. We are planning more visits to the fire station next term.



## Dates for your diary

The half-term break is 13<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> February 2023 (inclusive).

1PW and FT children return on  
Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February (1PW is Mon/Tue/Wed).

2PW children come back on  
Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February (2PW is Thu/Fri).

The end of term Sing-a-long is at 2.30pm on  
Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February (1PW & FT) and  
Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February (2PW & FT).

We have a staff training day on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February. The nursery will be closed for children on that day.

It is World Book Day on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March, although we will be celebrating the following week, especially on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March – more details to follow.

There are more potential teacher strike days on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. We will inform you closer to the time if these will be going ahead.

We have our termly Parent Conference meetings on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> 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.

## Safer Internet Day – Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February

We want everyone to be aware of Safer Internet Day. We spend so much of our time online and our children have access to the internet via our phones, tablets and computers. It is important to monitor their safety when using these devices. Here is a link to a very helpful leaflet that gives lots of ideas about how to make sure everyone is keeping safe online:

<https://www.childnet.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Keeping-Under-Fives-Safe-Online2.pdf>

