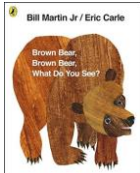


## News and updates from Clouds, Rainbows and Stars – September/October 2023

### Our Core Books

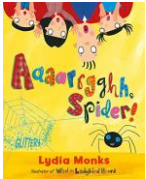
The children have enjoyed many books this term, including our Core Books. These have included:

#### **'Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?' by Bill Martin**



The children have really enjoyed this story as there are clear colourful pictures of animals and repeated phrases, meaning that they can 'read' the book for themselves and predict what comes next. They have been learning about colours, including the Makaton signs.

#### **'Aaaarrgghh, Spider!' by Lydia Monks**



This has been a really fun story to share as the children love to look for spiders and other creatures in the garden. It has also inspired them to be creative, making their own spiders out of clay and dough.

#### **'Baby Goes To Market' by Atinuke**



This story is so lovely about a baby who goes to market with Mama and finds out about all kinds of different foods, and even gets to taste some of them, including coconut, roasted sweetcorn and chin-chin. Some of us went to East Street Market with the story, to have a similar experience to the baby. We also baked some star shaped chin-chin like in the story. The children have enjoyed tasting other food at snack time including fried plantain, cornmeal porridge and jollof rice.

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

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

### Black History Month

We have been celebrating Black History Month during October. We have enjoyed sharing stories and songs from different cultures. Our core book has been 'Baby Goes to Market' by Atinuke which inspired a visit to East Street Market where the children bought fruit and vegetables featured in the story (see below). This year, we have focused on the children's own families and parents have been very generous with their time. Parents have come into nursery to share different aspects of their lives – one parent talked about her job as a midwife; parents and grandparents shared stories with the children; one parent showed the children how she makes fufu and let the children have a go; one parent came in to show her daughters' dolls who speak Arabic and wear hijabs; one grandparent made some jollof rice to share with the children, and other parents are coming in soon. It has been a wonderful opportunity to learn from each other and celebrate our wonderful community. If you would still like to share a song or story, or cook with the children, or share something else, you are very welcome at any time of the year.



Thank you to those who have contributed, and thank you too for all those who have sent in photos of themselves as children so that the children can learn about their own and their friends' families.

### East Street Market

Some of the children visited East Street Market where everyone was so friendly and helpful. The children loved looking at all the stalls and seeing a variety of fruit, vegetables, fabric, jewellery and so much more. The children chose some fruit – some fruit they knew well, such as oranges and bananas, and some that were less familiar that they wanted to try, such as figs and persimmons. The children have enjoyed trying these different fruits and vegetables at snack time.



## Autumn Singalong

We are having an Autumn Singalong on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October at 3.00pm and on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October at 9.00am on the decking. We will be singing the songs we have been learning this half term. Please come and join us and 'singalong' with us.

### Autumn 1 Singalong

Jack Wingo Spider  
Climbed up the water spout,  
Down came the rain and  
Washed the spider out.  
Out came the sunshine and  
Dried up all the rain,  
So Jack Wingo Spider  
Climbed up the spout again.



#### It's A Rainbow

Take a little bit of red (echo),  
And a little bit of orange (echo),  
Add a stripe of yellow (echo),  
And a stripe of green (echo),  
A little bit of blue (echo),  
A bit of indigo (echo),  
Don't forget the violet (echo),  
Then what do you know? (echo),  
It's a rainbow (echo),  
It's a rainbow (echo).

A little bit of rain,  
A little bit of sun,  
When they come together they  
make rainbow fun.  
It's a rainbow (echo),  
A wonderful, wonderful, magical,  
magical,  
Colourful, colourful, shining rainbow  
(echo).



Kala Sile  
E jeha lo - ch jeha lo  
Kala sile - kala sile  
Oh oh oh oh - E jeha lo Kala sile x 2



## Autumn at The Grove

The usual signs of Autumn are late this year, as many leaves are yet to change colour and fall. Nevertheless, the children have been busy in the garden, cooking with the herbs, grapes, berries and leaves in the mud kitchen, making up interesting recipes. They have also enjoyed looking for snails and other minibeasts, especially on wetter days. They made a bug hotel for the tiny creatures to hide in during the cold winter months. They have also been exploring natural objects, such as conkers and pine cones, and have made observational drawings and paintings of pumpkins.



In the garden, we harvested the grapes growing on the vine for snack and we picked the rhubarb chard for lunch. We have also planted some onions and spinach.

## Primary School Admissions

If your child will be going to a Reception class in a Primary School next year (i.e. everyone born between 1<sup>st</sup> Sept 2019 and 31<sup>st</sup> Aug 2020) – the online primary school application has to be completed by 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024 so it is a good idea to be thinking about and applying for schools now:

[www.southwark.gov.uk/schools/admission](http://www.southwark.gov.uk/schools/admission)

If you need any help or support, please talk to your child's key person.

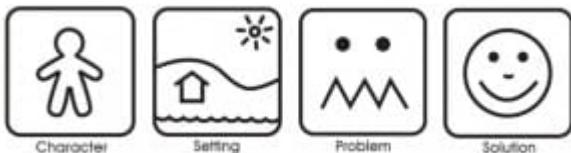
## Dates for your diary

The **Autumn half-term break** is from **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October** inclusive, so there will be no nursery for children this week. Most children return to nursery on **Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October** (except 2PW children will return on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November)

The **Parent Conference Day** is **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November** – there will be **no nursery session** on this day, but appointments can be made to meet with your child's Key Person.

There will be a staff training day on **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December**, so there will be **no nursery session** on this day.

## Tales Toolkit



The children have been learning to tell their own stories using a resource called Tales Toolkit. There are 4 bags of props, one for each element of the story. The children can choose who are in their stories from the 'Character' bag and where the stories take place from the 'Setting' bag. The adults help to bring the stories to life by using voices, actions, sound effects and movement, encouraging the children to join in so that all the stories are very interactive. As the stories continue, the children can choose a problem prop from the 'Problem' bag, such as a big spider. The children say why it is a problem and work out how to solve it with help from a prop from the 'Solution' bag. The children are learning to understand the structure of stories, and are encouraged to tell and take part in exciting stories at their level of language development. The children have really enjoyed this collaborative storytelling and we hope to do much more throughout the year.