



Parent Newsletter

Friday 30th April

Dear Mums, Dads and Carers,

We've had an incredibly busy week at school and we're in the swing of learning once again! There's lots to share from Lego and Bear this week but a few messages before...

Email to Look Out For

Emails have come out to parents this week regarding Parent Consultations and Children's Photos. Please check you have received this information so you don't miss out.

Childminders

We are often asked for a list of childminders that pick up from our school. If you are a childminder or know of any please can you get in touch with us.

Residents

Please could you ensure you are respectful to the local residents. We have had several reports of parking in private areas and blocking residents' access.

Helpful Dates

Bank Holiday – **School Closed** - Monday 3rd May

Individual Photos - Wednesday 5th May

Polling Day - **Nursery closed** – 6th May

Break up for Half Term – normal time on Friday 28th May

Inset Days – **School Closed to children** – Monday 7th June and Tuesday 8 June

Online Parent Consultations – Tuesday 8th June and Wednesday 9th June

Lego Learning (Last Week)

Lego's focus learning word is **Independent** and the children have been striving to achieve this every single day. We have explored the meaning of the word and they have a firm grasp of its meaning.

In Maths, we have been exploring making numbers in different ways e.g. $3 + 4$ and $5 + 2$ and $6 + 1$ all make 7. The Maths vocabulary that we have used includes words such as similar and different. We've also practised recording our maths using drawings, number sentences and part, part whole method. Numicon has been a favourite resource in the classroom (see the photos).

In English we have been learning a story called Billy the Brave Knight. Did you know that stories have a beginning, a middle and an end! We've been practising the words **title**, **characters** and **setting**. Our story writing begins with creating a story map and writing sentences to go with the pictures that they have drawn. When they are writing the children use their phonic knowledge and key words, allowing them to work as independently as possible. They have been encouraged to use adjectives and the conjunction 'and' to make their writing interesting to the reader. The children have been learning to edit their writing and make the changes to improve their writing.

In History we have been learning about knights, castles and Queen Elizabeth. We found out about Buckingham palace compared it to our own homes. We made a fact file for the Queen and even made birthday cards to post to her. Sadly Queen Elizabeth's husband passed away recently and we had a chat about that too.



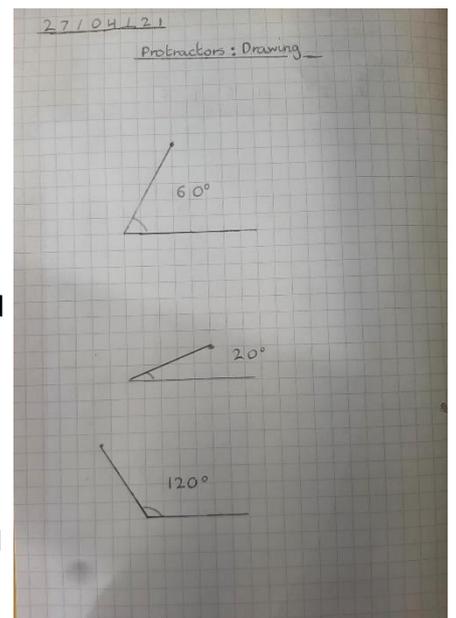
Bear Learning

It's been another exciting week of learning in Bear Class!

One of our favourite lessons is PE and in rounders we focussed on our hitting technique, working in small groups to rehearse this skill. In our other PE lesson, athletics, we developed our javelin throwing and we are now using a side on step approach before throwing.



Our word of the term is **resilience** which we have needed a lot in Maths - we've had a challenging week learning how to use a **protractor** to draw and to measure angles. Max's book here shows how well we learned the importance of first drawing a **horizontal** line and then measuring precisely with the protractor. As we gained more and more confidence, some of us even felt brave enough to extend our learning to use a 360° protractor too!



Computing provided us with even more challenges as we continued with our work on coding. Many of us are using our Purple Mash

accounts at home, but in class this week we learned about how to use 'If' statements in a sequence.

Our adventures in learning didn't stop there! History has taught us that The Ancient Egyptians were part of the Agricultural Revolution, making The River Nile vital to them and related to Geography, where we are learning about rivers - this week was about understanding how rivers flood and the negative impacts.

Finally in writing, we have been creating a narrative about Robin Hood as we are looking at legends - which have also been part of our reading lessons. A focus for everyone was creating engaging descriptions to entice the reader. Jack and Alexa have done this really powerfully:

'As quiet as a mouse, Robin leapt into every shadow he could find to stealthily move around the camp, not daring to step anywhere near the dozens of sticks that were sleeping in the long grass.'

'...using the absence of the moon as a cover, Robin, on his tiptoes, shivering, but not letting that bother him, crept around the camp as silent as he can possibly be.'

Have a wonderful, long weekend everyone!

Mrs Lyon and the Leavesden Team