Play & Learning Newsletter

6th – 10th June 2022

**Tent, campsite, sleeping bag, pitch, mallet, tent pegs, campfire.**

Wonder words to use with your child:

A super start to the last half term of the year (where has that time gone??!). We are beginning term off with a focus on camping, something which all the children get excited about – whether they have been camping or not! With two tents up in the playroom, sleeping bags to snuggle and (pretend) campfires to build, the children have loved engaging in camping role play, listening to stories in the tents and beginning to learn some campfire songs. Those who have camped have been confidently sharing their experiences with their friends and all of the children have been deciding who they would like to go camping with and where to.

This week’s story focus has been ‘Maisy Goes Camping’, a simple but very effective story for engaging the children in what camping means. It’s also great for promoting number talk and it also has a CD which goes with it which is full of songs with a language and number focus – lots of popping out of tents which has generated lots of giggles!

On Tuesday we had Mhairi’s mum, Mel, to visit us and run yoga sessions with the Flying Fish and Starfish. Mel runs Little Bear’s Yoga at Illogan’s Old School Centre on Wednesday mornings from 10 – 10.45 am. The pre-school crew absolutely LOVED the sessions that she ran with us! Lots of fun and wonderful opportunities for the children to develop their physical skills and self regulation. A huge thank you to Mel for coming to do this with the children.

Other highlights this week have been exploring using the media of oil pastels, developing scissor skills with camping cutting out pictures, developing ideas about capacity with bottles, measuring cylinder, funnels and spoons in the sand tray, and making little tents for little teddies from sticks, material and playdough. There has also been a lot of water fun outside – with some great water slides for cars and small world people being made.

 ***Sounds and Letters/language focus:*** *The Flying Fish have learnt another letter sound c/k, learning that both letters make the same sound and that sometimes you see the letters together in a word but you only say ‘c’ once.*

*The starfish have been focusing on developing their understanding of WHO, WHERE and WHY questions with fun game which involves closing their eyes whilst someone puts a hat on one of their heads or a teddy on one of their laps.*

 **Out & About sessions:**

On Monday we went camping at the beach where we were challenged to come up with a way of creating a tent with just a tarpaulin and some tent pegs. The Flying Fish were great at coming up with ways to do this and lots of fun was had lying in the tent and then ‘popping’ out of it (just like in Maisy Goes Camping).

|  |
| --- |
| Ideas to support your child at home: All children love the idea of camping and a fab way of keeping them busy is to either put up a little tent in the garden or house or create one from some blankets and chairs. Ask them what they will need to have in their tent to go camping with and encourage them to find these things independently. Ask who they would like to go camping with (teddies/toys) and what they are going to sleep on etc. Having a chat about what they plan to do and then leaving them to get on with sorting themselves out is a great way of supporting their planning and organisation skills – something that will support their learning as they develop through life.  |
|  |