Play & Learning Newsletter

**Spring, leap, twirl, character, describe, prefer,**

4th-8th March 2024

Wonder words to use with your child:

We have continued with the Gingerbread Man theme with another great book called The Gingerbread Girl who tricks the cunning fox’s attempt at eating her, the children have really enjoyed the differences between the two stories.

On Thursday it was World book day. The children have loved showing us their favourite stories and telling us what they like about their chosen story, who their favourite character is and why. We have used cut out pictures of the children to use as props so they can become part of their favourite story and influence how the story plays out and possible endings. Storytelling enhances imagination, helps to visualize spoken words, improve vocabulary, refines communication skills and can help to develop their concentration skills to name just a few benefits!

***Sounds and Letters/language focus:*** *The Flying Fish have been focusing on distinguishing the letter ‘i’ sound when playing the sound box game and Metal Mike. We looked at cvc words with ‘i’ in the middle (pig, zip etc) and we practiced writing ‘i’ as well as follow my line drawings.*



*This week the Starfish have been exploring different instruments and their sounds. A set of instruments were placed behind and in front of a divider and they had to really listen to match the sounds when the instruments were played.*

 **Out & About sessions:** We managed 3 out and abouts this week. We took another group of children to the play park this week to climb, balance and swing. They challenged themselves and pushed themselves to climb higher, swing further and run a little faster. We also took another group to Harbour House for James 102nd birthday celebrations. We also went up to the woods bug hunting and looking for signs of spring time using magnifying glasses and we made our way all the way up to the lookout!

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| Ideas to support your child at home:  There are many benefits to outdoor physical play, and swinging/hanging especially helps develop fine motor skills, grip strength, hand, arm and finger co-ordination. It also develops a child’s core muscles and helps with the development of balance. So encourage your little ones to get up and move!! |