

Foundation

On Monday, the children celebrated the arrival of the Spring Equinox with our inaugural Great British Nature Day. The rain held off as we walked along Vicar's Brook admiring the new leaves and flowers that were just starting to appear! Many thanks to the parents who came along to help (Mrs Kwok, Mrs Bradshaw, Ms Norton, Mr Bowdrey, Mrs Hatchett, Mr Munns, Mrs Adomeit, Mrs Erhun, Mrs Price, Mrs Potton, Mrs Dann, Mrs Wilson and Mr McConnell) – we are very grateful! The children then returned to class where we made habitats in boxes, nests (out of chocolate), hunted for British mammals (sadly only their photographs) and did life drawings of beautiful spring flowers from Mrs Harmsworth's garden.

On Friday, the children were astonished to find that eggs had been left in the playground for them to find. Some think that the Easter Bunny had been while the children were in their classrooms but it will have to remain a mystery...

We have sent home an 'Easter Scrapbook' for the children to use to document their holiday activities. You may like to include photographs, drawings or writing and these will be shared in the first few days of the new term. This activity focuses upon your child's communication skills; they will be able to practise speaking to an audience about past events and develop their awareness of the listener when talking. You will also find three reading books in your child's book bag.

This term in Maths, we have been focusing on reading and writing numbers to 20 and beyond; adding and subtracting single digit numbers; naming a range of 2D and 3D shapes; reading o' clock and half-past on a clock; naming coins; and sorting objects by weight and height. Ways to support this learning over the Easter holidays include:

- Playing board games such as snakes and ladders to practise reading numbers and counting on.
- Playing Maths games on the VLE and BusyThings.
- Sharing Easter eggs, sweets, objects etc.
- Writing the numbers from 0 – 10.
- Counting forwards and backwards to and from 20. Can you start/end at different places?
- Encouraging your child to put objects in different places and then tell you where it is with the use of position words such as next to, in front of, beside, under, on top, behind.
- Cooking - weighing and following instructions.
- Setting up a mini supermarket in the kitchen and using real money with which to go shopping.

We look forward to seeing the children back in April and hearing about their holidays. Our topic next half term will be based on plants, with an overview available on the VLE in the Pre Prep parent area.

Happy Easter,
The Foundation Team