

Foundation

The children have enjoyed our story theme of 'Ganesh's Sweet Tooth'. This story originates in India; we looked at India on the world map and discussed similarities and differences between India and England. The children have enjoyed listening to Indian music and making junk models based on Dhol drums. Thank you to Dr Chokshi (mother of Nandini, FCH) who came to talk to the children about India.

The Hedgehogs and the Foxes visited the Wild Place.

This week in Maths, we have been adding and subtracting single digit numbers. In order to support this learning at home, first collect some toys (up to 10) and a box. Put toys one at a time into the box, so that your child cannot see them inside, counting together.

Ask: "Can you show on your fingers how many are hidden?"
"Could you record how many are hidden?"

Add one to the box, without showing the objects inside, and ask your child to show on their fingers, "How many are there now?". Then show how many are inside the box and count to check. Questions you may like to ask include:

- How many were there at the start?
- How many are there now?
- How do you know?
- How did you work it out?
- What if we add two more?
- What if we take one out? Two out?
- Imagine there are 10 in there and I take 6 out – how would you know how many were left?
- Can you show me, by writing it down, how many there were and what happened?

We have been so impressed by the beautiful cursive script the children have adopted this year and to further develop their handwriting we have started formal handwriting lessons. The letter formations are grouped in a particular order, to best support the children's handwriting development, with animal characters as visual reminders. The letters are introduced according to their shape for example the letters 'l, t, h, b, k and f' all belong to the 'Harriet the Cow' family and are formed in the same way by starting on the grass line, going straight up, up to the cloud line before coming back down. The children will receive a handwriting book and will complete a letter formation page in school every Tuesday and Thursday. These books will then be sent home, where the remainder of the letter formation can be completed using a writing pencil, before being returned to school ready for next lesson. Please only complete the letter that has been introduced and practised at school. We will start this on Tuesday 17th March.

The table below outlines the homework your child will receive each day starting on Monday 9th March. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

Monday	Reading book or Blending words
Tuesday	Handwriting book (to be returned by Thursday morning)
Wednesday	Reading book
Thursday	Handwriting book (to be returned by Monday morning)
Friday	Reading book and Maths based activity (as described in the weekly Foundation newsletter)

Although the weather is becoming warmer, please do continue to send your child into school with a coat and wellies. The weather can quickly change throughout the day and we would like the children to be appropriately dressed should the weather turn colder.

Next week, we will be moving to Australia where we will look at the dreamtime story of 'The Rainbow Bird'.

The Foundation Team