

Foundation

This week our focus has been on the story of Little Red Riding Hood. The children enjoyed acting out the story, listening to different versions and making shadow puppets - looking at what happens when you block a light source.

This week in Maths, we have been building on our work on capacity, using the terms full, empty, nearly empty, quarter full, half-full. We have been comparing containers, ordering them by size. We also enjoyed some weighing to make cakes.

This weekend for Maths homework, you could join in the RSPB Big Bird Watch. Information can be downloaded here: <https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/birdwatch/>. You may like to make a bird feeder with your child. We have put some ideas for feeders on the VLE Foundation Topic page: <https://i.stfaiths.co.uk/foundation-1/foundation-topic-4>. You could spend some time counting the birds that come into your garden to feed on your feeder (sheets to help with this can be again downloaded from the topic page on the VLE).

At school, we work hard to develop the children's resilience, another one of our learning habits. We encourage the children to say "never mind" when things don't go their way and for them to have another try. We would always reward effort over achievement. If your child finds something hard during their home learning, you might like to say to them:

- You can do it!
- Well done for trying!
- It's good to have a go.
- Is there another way you could try?
- What did you do when you got stuck last time?
- What else could you try?

The ability to reframe challenges in ways that are less threatening is also linked to resilience. We might say, "You can't go outside and play today because it is raining but we have got out the remote control cars instead." You might like to help children talk about their emotions, talking about times you have found things difficult and acknowledging we all feel sad, scared or worried. Imitation is a powerful way to learn. Social support is also a good way of building resilience and this is why we have our Stars of the Week and our dots on ladders, so children realise we consistently notice and value their achievements.

Next week, we are thinking about Chinese New Year and looking forward to joining in the NSPCC number day. We hope on the 3rd of February your child will come to school wearing an item of clothing with a number on. Please also bring a pound coin in to help us raise money for this worthwhile charity whilst we have a whole day playing with numbers. This will mean a number of timetable changes. We won't do a phonics sound on Thursday, but will do one on Friday. Also FCAH will visit the library on **MONDAY 31st** instead of their normal Thursday slot to enable them to have more Number Fun! Our word of the week will be 'charity'.

Have a lovely weekend.

The Foundation Team