



Farm Trip

Last Friday, Reception had a *fantastic* day at Whitehouse Farm! The children loved every moment—from feeding the lambs to meeting the original Dan Burn the goat. One of the highlights was the wonderfully bumpy tractor ride, where the children were also able to feed many of the larger animals.

Our guides told us all about the pregnant sheep and goats, explaining why they needed to stay indoors, and we even saw some beautiful baby lambs wearing little knitted jumpers to keep them warm. We were very lucky to hold lots of different small animals, including mice, rabbits and guinea pigs.

Many of the children were incredibly brave and chose to hold or touch the giant millipede, the snake, and even a giant cockroach! We also had the rare chance to see and touch the shed skin of the giant python, which had come off only the day before.

Throughout the day, our guides shared so much interesting information about the animals and life on the farm. We enjoyed spotting some unexpected animals too, such as llamas, alpacas, reindeer, an emu and meerkats. The little monkeys kept us laughing, and the children were fascinated by the "skinny pigs."

Travelling on the coach and having lunch in the lunch shed added to the excitement of the day. It truly was a brilliant trip—so much so that many children asked if we could go back again!

Back in the classroom this week, we have continued the fun by setting up our own farm in small world play and beginning to create a farm shop and café in our role-play area. The children have talked about their favourite parts of the trip and created wonderful drawings and sentences to share their experiences.

A huge thank you to all the volunteers who helped us on the trip. You were all an enormous asset to the success of the day, and we are so grateful for your support.

We are already looking forward to our next adventure—a visit to the Stephenson Railway Museum coming up soon!

If you would like to volunteer to support us on our next trip, please let your child's class teacher know. 😊



Northern Stage Theatre Workshop

This week, the Reception children had the exciting opportunity to take part in a theatre workshop with Rebecca from Northern Stage, based on the fairytale *Hansel and Gretel*.



The session began with some fun warm-up games before the children listened to Rebecca retell her own version of the story. The storytelling was incredibly engaging, as the children had to copy Rebecca's actions and gestures throughout, making them active participants in the tale. They loved experimenting with different voices and acting out expressions such as shock and fear, as well as pretending to be different characters from the story.

The children also played a freeze-frame game where they moved around the room and froze in poses to represent characters such as the scary witch or the brave Gretel. They then worked in pairs to create their own freeze frames to show different parts of the story.

Every child was fully engaged and eager to take part, showing fantastic facial expressions and brilliant acting skills. We were so impressed with their enthusiasm, attitude and dedication during the workshop.

We may have some superstar actors and actresses in the making—well done everyone!

Observational drawings of Daffodils

To link in to our Spring topic, the children enjoyed creating observational drawings of daffodils using a new drawing tool—oil pastels.

They looked very carefully at the flowers, paying close attention to the shape of the petals and stems, and thoughtfully selected colours that matched what they could see.

The children showed great focus and determination, trying their very best throughout the activity. We are incredibly proud of their efforts, and the finished drawings are truly outstanding!



Important diary dates and information

17.3.26- 19.3.26- Reception Parent Workshop 3- Outdoor Learning

Mrs Gendler-Watson's Class Parents workshop's:-

- Tuesday 17th March at 2:00pm, or
- Wednesday 18th March at 9:10am

Miss Flitcroft's Class Parents workshop's:-

- Wednesday 18th March at 2:00pm, or
- Thursday 19th March at 9:10am

30.3.26- 2:30pm Reception Easter Assembly

2.4.26- School closes for Easter Holidays.

20.4.26- School Open for Summer Term 1

22.4.26- Reception Dental checks

4.5.26- Bank Holiday Monday

6.5.26- Reception Stephenson Railway trip- More details to follow soon.

21.5.26- School closes for May Half term holiday

22.5.26- Teacher training day

Reminders:

- **Home learning Journals-** Thank you for all the lovely journal entries this week. We will be collecting the journals back in on Monday 30th March.
- **Reading folders-** Please ensure your child's reading folder is in their book bag every day. We change books usually on a Monday and Friday, but we sometimes get a chance to read with your child through the week too. **Please can we remind parents/ carers to record in their child's journal when you have read with your child at home too.**
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- **Labelling items of clothing-** Please can you ensure all items of clothing including hats, gloves, scarfs, shoes, jumpers/cardigans and coats are labelled clearly with your child's name.
- **Cool Milk.** Please remember that your child/ children are not eligible for free school milk after their 5th birthday. If you would like your child to continue having milk at school, you must contact Cool Milk directly at least two weeks before their birthday.



Have a lovely Weekend.
The Reception Team 😊