



## Outdoor Parent Workshop

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our Outdoor Workshop this week. The children absolutely loved sharing their outdoor classroom with their grown-ups and showing them all the wonderful things they enjoy learning and exploring each day.

Families took part in a range of exciting activities. These included tea-making in the water area, 3D shape printing in the creative zone, colourful chalk drawings on the playground, and plenty of construction building in our outdoor construction space. Children also enjoyed creating observational drawings of the nature around them, carefully studying leaves, flowers, and insects to capture what they could see.

One of the most magical moments of the session was when the children discovered a ladybird resting quietly in the garden. This sparked awe and wonder as the children gathered to watch it move gently across the ground, sharing ideas, asking questions and showing such care and curiosity.

In the storytelling area, the children delighted in using the puppet theatre to retell favourite stories. Together, they recreated scenes from our book of the week, *The Tiger Who Came to Tea*. There was great excitement when a special tiger appeared in the coloured rice tray—but just like in the story, he didn't stay for long!

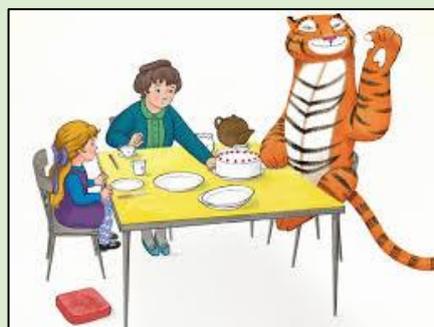
It was wonderful to see children and adults learning and playing side by side. The grown-ups embraced the activities with enthusiasm, and it was clear that everyone was having a fantastic time together.

Thank you for immersing yourselves in the world of Early Years outdoor learning. As we shared in our presentation, the outdoors is a vital and enriching part of the Early Years curriculum. We hope you were able to experience some of the many benefits that outdoor learning brings.

### **Some key benefits of outdoor learning in the Early Years include:**

- **Physical development:** Climbing, running, balancing and building outdoors strengthen children's muscles, coordination and gross motor skills.
- **Language development:** Outdoor discoveries, shared tasks and natural curiosity encourage children to talk, question and develop rich vocabulary.
- **Awe and wonder:** Nature provides powerful moments—like spotting insects, watching clouds or exploring textures—that spark curiosity, excitement and deeper thinking.
- **Emotional wellbeing:** Outdoor play promotes calmness, confidence and resilience, helping children feel happy, secure and ready to learn.
- **Social skills:** Working together on outdoor tasks supports turn-taking, teamwork, communication and problem-solving.
- **Creativity and imagination:** Open-ended natural materials invite storytelling, invention and creative exploration.
- **Connection to nature:** Spending time outside helps children develop respect, understanding and appreciation for the natural world.
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Thank you once again for your enthusiasm and support. It was wonderful welcoming you into our outdoor classroom, and we look forward to many more opportunities to share in the children's learning journey together.



## Staying safe online- Internet Safety

Next week in Reception, our learning will centre around Internet Safety. Even though our children are very young, they are already beginning to use tablets, computers, and digital devices both at home and in school. We will be introducing simple, age-appropriate ideas to help them learn how to enjoy technology safely.

### Our Key Learning Objectives

#### 👁️ 1. Asking Before They Use a Device

Children will learn to always ask a grown-up before going online or using any digital device.

#### 👥 2. Using Technology in Shared Spaces

We'll talk about why it's safer to use tablets or computers where an adult can help, such as the living room or classroom.

#### 🚫 3. What To Do If Something 'Pops Up'

We will practise what to do if they see something unusual:

👉 *Stop, don't click, and tell a trusted adult straight away.*

#### 💬 4. Talking About What They Watch or Play

Children will be encouraged to talk about the apps, games, and videos they enjoy so they learn that sharing their experiences with adults is normal and safe.

#### 👤🏠 5. Being Kind Online

Just like in school, we'll explore how to use kind words and make good choices when using technology.

### Activities We Will Be Doing:

- Role-play: acting out what to do when something unexpected appears on a screen.
- Stories and circle time: reading simple online-safety stories and discussing characters' choices.
- Using technology safely in the classroom under supervision to practise these rules.

### How You Can Support at Home:

You can help reinforce the message by:

- Talking to your child about what they enjoy online.
- Reminding them to tell you if something surprises or worries them.
- Using child-friendly settings or parental controls on devices.
  - Keeping devices in shared family spaces.



### 💬 If You Need More Information...

Here are some useful websites you can access for more information on how to protect your child at home online.

<https://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers/>

<https://www.childnet.com/resources/smartie-the-penguin/>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

<https://www.internetmatters.org/>



We are excited to share that our next Reception trip will be to *Stephenson Steam Railway* on Friday 8th May. This visit links beautifully with our STEM Week learning, supporting the children's understanding of the world and helping them explore our rich local history.

During the visit, the children will become 'Active Explorers', with plenty of opportunities outdoors to investigate, notice, and make discoveries in the environment around them. Indoors, we will take part in the engaging "All Aboard" workshop, where the children will learn about trains and how they have changed over time.

We are really looking forward to a fantastic day of exploration and hands-on learning.

To help us meet the required child-to-adult ratio, we are looking for parent and carer helpers. If you are able to support us on the day, please let us know. Thank you for your continued support. 😊

### Important diary dates and information

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

8.5.26- Reception Stephenson Railway trip

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 30<sup>th</sup> 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 5<sup>th</sup> 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 😊