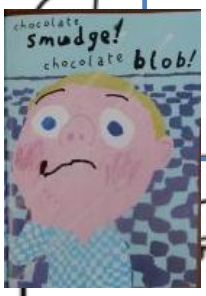




Reception Class Newsletter

23rd January 2026





Literacy

This week we have been looking at the poem *Chocolate Cake* by Michael Rosen. The children thought it was so funny! It's about a boy who LOVES chocolate cake – in fact, it is his favourite food! In the middle of the night he sneaks downstairs to eat it. He is careful to clean up, not leaving any crumbs but is caught out by his mum who notices a chocolate smudge on his face! After a cold playtime outside we talked about warming ourselves with something sweet. We decided to learn how to make chocolate mug cakes and share the recipe with Michael Rosen so he no longer has to wait for his mum to make him one! We began by researching chocolate cake using our senses. Mmm We talked about 'tasty' words – delicious, yummy, unbelievable… and created an enticing title – *Tantalizing Chocolate Mug Cakes*. We talked about the importance of washing our hands before making a cake. Then we sequenced the steps to follow.









Phonics

We have been learning some more new sounds:

ur ow oi ear

ur catchphrase – ***curl the fur***

ow catchphrase – ***wow owl***

oi catchphrase – ***boing boing***

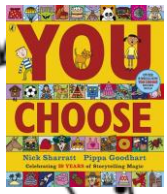
ear catchphrase – ***get near to hear***

The children have been spotting these diagraphs in words so they can blend to read the word.

For example:

hurt down boil tear





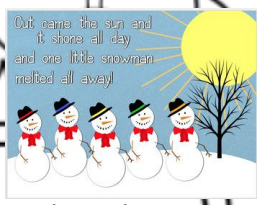
You Choose

This week we have been talking about our likes and dislikes. We loved looking closely at the book *You Choose* and sharing our thoughts. We discovered that we all like different things and that's ok. The children loved looking at the pages about different hats – Mrs Beaden brought in a large selection of hats for the children to choose. It was great fun trying them all on and deciding which ones we like the most.

Isn't it wonderful that we are all different and like different things.

Hibernation

We have been finding out about hibernation - a deep sleep that helps some animals to save energy and survive the winter without eating much. During hibernation the animal's body temperature drops, and its heartbeat and its breathing slows down so that it does not use much energy.



Maths

We have been working on one more and one less and using these to solve problems. We really enjoyed singing *Five Little Snowmen* to practise our one less calculations. At the end of the week we explored different ways of making 5. This was done in lots of ways including throwing bean bags into a bucket and recording how many we got into the bucket and how many were on the floor.

2 in 3 out 1 in 4 out

The children recorded on paper using simple marks

Next week

- In Literacy we will write our instructions for making Chocolate Mug Cake
- We will follow the instructions and make our cakes, finally tasting them!
- In Phonics we will be learning new sounds
  air er
- In Maths we will be investigating mass and capacity

Keep on reading and learning those tricky words at home – you're doing a fantastic job. Thank you