



Animals Topic takes off

Across the school classes have been getting underway with the animal topic. The Sycamores have already been on an outing to Blackberry Farm where they met lots of animals, had a tour with a very knowledgeable keeper and had lots of fun.

The Oak Trees are working with one of our parents who makes enrichment activities for animals in captivity, and they are designing and making a snake playground. Read more in their report.

A pair of guinea pigs have moved into the infant house this week and children are really loving looking after them. The combined junior classes are off to Howletts animal kingdom next week and are very excited to find out more about their favourite animals.

On Friday, Alastair ran an animal quiz listening to animal sounds and finding out lots of interesting facts.

It seems like even taking Covid tests is taking on an animal theme too! See the zebra above!



Covid Testing

Many stripes – but only one red one! Paula is enjoying some funny photo uploads of test results!



Annan Eco Committee

Last week the new Eco Committee met for the first time this year and shared lots of ideas about how they could make a difference.

They are already busy planning a clothes swap and book swap this term and are researching other things they can do.

Some of the group are also going to a climate workshop at Lewes Town Hall on Monday.



Sycamores at the Farm

What a wonderful time Sycamore Class had last Friday when they visited Blackberry Farm, the sun shone and the children emersed themselves in life on a farm. They hand fed some sheep, goats and llamas, handled and stroked rabbits and guinea pigs and even got up close and personal with a rat and a chinchilla!

The children then travelled around the grounds on a tractor and were able to observe the deer, cows and ponies in the fields.

This trip has given them lots of inspiration for their topic.





'We grant space and time to young plants and animals because we know that, in accordance with the laws that live in them, they will develop properly and grow well. Froebel

Snake playgrounds

As part of their topic 'All Creatures Great and Small' Oak Trees are going to be visiting Bede's small zoo on the 4th February with Mark Kingston-Jones (Maya's dad) as he works with the zookeeper there. Mark has come up with some very exciting activities for Oak Tree Class that will enrich the lives of the creatures in the zoo.

This week the class have started their first project to create 'snake playgrounds'. They first had to collect silver birch and sweet chestnut branches from the woodland and worked in groups to saw the wood into pieces. The next job was to drill holes through the pieces of wood. This turned out to be a bit tricky but luckily Helen's husband Mark D'Ascoli came over to help with his huge electric drill. The children loved the experience of using such a large and powerful drill! They then started attaching the wood with rope to the frame that Mark K-J has made for us. They have a little bit more to do but so far they are looking amazing!



Guinea pigs in the Infant House

Oak Trees are loving having Bosco and Rosa as class pets. The children have been learning how to take care of them, making them things out of junk modelling and they even made a run out of blocks for them to use whilst their cage was being cleaned out.

The guinea pigs eat vast quantities of green veg, cucumber and some peppers, carrots. If you have any at home you could send in we would really appreciate regular donations!



Menu for next week:

- Monday: Macaroni cheese and veggies
- Tuesday: Chilli and Rice
- Wednesday: Pizza and veggies
- Thursday: Soup and bread
- Friday: Packed Lunch

Diary for next week:

- Monday: Jamie Palmer (student teacher from Brighton Uni is starting a placement in Sycamore Class).
- Thursday: Junior Classes trip to Howlett Zoo