Play & Learning Newsletter

**Spring, leap, twirl, character, describe, prefer, St Patricks Day**

17th – 21st March 2025

Wonder words to use with your child:

We have continued with the Gingerbread Man theme with another great book called The Gingerbread Girl who tricks the cunning fox’s attempt at eating her, the children have really enjoyed the differences between the two stories.

Our week began by celebrating St Patrick’s Day. We used the Let’s Celebrate Cbeebies programme to help the children understand what occurs during this festival. We had a go at Irish dancing and created St Patrick’s Day hats at Harbour house with the residents while listening to Irish music.

***Sounds and Letters/language focus:*** The Flying Fish have been focusing on the sound c/k with the sound box and sorting object with a c/k or a t sound into the correct hoop. We have also been looking for things in our environment with the c/k sound. The children are getting really good at spotting sounds in words.



Star fish children have read the story the gingerbread girl and been encouraged to join in and say the repeated refrains in the story. They decorated their own cut out gingerbread girl while focusing on shapes and shape properties such as straight, round, edge, pointy etc. They have also been using the story the very hungry caterpillar along with props that a lovely local lady Pat made for us.

**Out & About sessions** – We have introduced the children to our allotment which is located at the bottom of lighthouse hill. It is owned by the Portreath Improvements Committee who kindly allow us to use it free of charge. The last couple of years the children have gained so much from their visits and observing how a tiny seed can transform into food with a little TLC. This week it was all about getting it ready by starting with weeding and becoming familiar with the space. The children have observed so many bugs and insects already with just one visit. They have also been eagerly discussing what they would like to grow ☺

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| Ideas to support your child at home:  Maybe have a go at growing something at home. Many veg can be grown in containers if you don’t have a lot of space.  There are many benefits to outdoor physical play, and swinging/hanging especially helps develop fine motor skills, grip strength, hand, arm and finger co-ordination. It also develops a child’s core muscles and helps with the development of balance. So encourage your little ones to get up and move!! |