Play & Learning Newsletter

27th February – 3rd March 2023

**You can’t catch me! Sly, cunning, trusted.**

Wonder words to use with your child:

The children loved the Runaway Pancake so much last week that we decided to use the classic story of The Gingerbread Man to further develop their ideas and language around the concept of food running away! All of the children have been developing their story sequencing skills whilst using props and picture cards to retell the story. The older children have been exploring the words ‘sly’ and ‘cunning’ and ‘trusted’ to talk about the characters of the fox and the gingerbread man – complex language for little people but they have grasped the meaning of the words in the context of the story. They have also been creating their own versions of the story – something they are becoming so great at doing! This year’s preschool crew are certainly a very imaginative lot! 😊

The playdough table has seen gingerbread men being rolled out and cut and then decorated. Children have been developing their strength and control in the finger joints as they rolled very tiny balls for eyes and noses and smiles, plus carefully pressed them flat for buttons; really great experiences for helping them acquire the physical skills needed for holding a pen.

***Sounds and Letters/language focus:*** *The Flying Fish have been introduced to the ‘n’ sound- a long sound that when made correctly makes our noses tingle! They have loved using mirrors to see how the sound is made (teeth together with the tongue at the back of the teeth).*



*The Starfish have been developing their understanding of positional language with very active little gingerbread men that have been hiding under, behind, between, on top of and beside things.*

 **Out & About sessions:**

The children have made the most of the dry, sunny weather to spend time in our allotment planting carrots and checking to see if the radishes and parsnips have germinated yet.

At the beach they have been making use of the large open space to play games where they had to listen and follow instructions, making marks in the sand with their fingers and using their bodies to make large movements.

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| Ideas to support your child at home:  Reading and sharing stories with your child is one of the best ways to extend and develop their vocabulary – something which helps them in so many ways as they progress from pre-school to big school and then through their school journey (even in secondary school!). A wide vocabulary makes a huge difference to their ability to explain their ideas plus will be reflected in their writing at a later stage in school.  Chatting about what is happening in the story that you are reading to them and picking up on any unusual or new words and explaining them is all it needs to help your child become more aware of different words. You will be surprised what their amazing sponge like brains will absorb! |