Play & Learning Newsletter

20th- 24thth March 2023

**Spring, planting, daffodils, season, growing**

Wonder words to use with your child:

This week we have been learning all about Spring and what happens during this season. The children have been making cress heads using yoghurt pots and cotton wool and carefully counting out the seeds to place in the pots, which they have been checking daily for their seeds to start changing. We have placed one in a cupboard to show the difference when the cress is starved of light.

The Starfish have been creating colourful tyres in the playground by planting primrose flowers, they really enjoyed the task of filling the tyres with compost, digging a hole then re-potting the flowers. They have been very proud to show all the other children their flowers. Flowers have inspired our creative experiences with the children painting daffodils using a vase of daffodils as reference. The pictures they produced will be on display in our gallery at pre-school.

There was great excitement and exploration within our builders tray this week with the addition of compost, plant pots, trowels and a selection of mini vegetables. This resulted in a lot of conversations about where our vegetables come from and how they are grown, counting and sorting skills and which ones they like to eat.

 ***Sounds and Letters/language focus:*** *The Flying Fish have been focusing on beginning to blend the sounds of words together, and blending separate sounds to hear a word, using the metal Mike guessing game.*

*This week the Starfish have been focusing on breaking down their names to really listen to how many syllables are in them, they have then clapped out these syllables.*

 **Out & About sessions:** The Flying Fish have explored Illogan Woods for signs of Spring, looking for new plant growth and birds making nests. They have also spent time at the allotment checking on how the vegetables are growing, and deciding on what they would like to grow next (cabbages, lettuces, tomatoes to name a few).

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| Ideas to support your child at home:

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| Can you do some planting at home? Children love to plant things and it’s a great opportunity for developing their concept of patience, observing small changes and looking after something. A really simple way to grow something is to cut off the top of a carrot and place it in a saucer of water on the windowsill. Encourage your child to notice what happens to the top of the carrot.  |

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