

# What's happening in The Hive this week?

Week beginning: Nov 20<sup>th</sup> 2017

'A rhyme in my pocket'. The children are learning new rhymes. Staff have different rhymes in their pockets and sing them to the children throughout the day.

So why is rhyming so important for young children?

Singing nursery rhymes and songs to young children helps to develop their language and communication skills. Listening to rhymes helps children hear the sounds and syllables in words and as we know the more stories and rhymes children hear the larger their vocabulary will be! A strong vocabulary improves children's comprehension, social conversations, writing and much more. Singing rhymes and songs is fun and children love silly rhymes and nonsensical verse. They enjoy it when we change the words in rhymes or make up new silly songs. We can hear Jane singing all the time in nursery. She has a rhyme for everything (mostly made up to old tunes) So, if you hear the children singing 'I have a rhyme in my pocket, in my pocket, in my pocket. I have a rhyme in my pocket, what do you think it is?' you will know why! If you would like to share a rhyme with your child there are some rhymes on the display in the entrance for you to take! Children do not mind if you don't have a perfect singing voice! Let's get singing!

Our Artist in Residence came last week and the staff and children have been inspired to use new materials to create with. They are exploring what happens when you mix lemon juice and salt to their paintings. They are painting with block paints and used brown paper and foil to sculpture.

The children are using pipettes in the water area to explore what happens when colours are added to water.

**Garden:** the children have been thinking about why we feed birds in the cold weather. They will be making bird feeders out of recycled containers this week and spreading them out across the garden. They will be collecting sticks in different sized bags for the forest fires as we are running out of sticks in the forest!

The children have been planting trees given to us by the Woodland trust

**Forest School:** the Fox group went out in the forest for the first time last week and they had a great time! They explored the forest and started to learn the forest rules. Logan and Jacob made a bridge across Horseshoe Hill and were working out ways to move it and used a large stick to lever it. The children found snail eggs while they were bug hunting! They were very small and the children researched about snails

**What can you do at home to support your child's learning?** Learn a new rhyme with your child and share it with their key person! They can sing it with their friends at family times and on celebration day!