

## **Struthers Early Years Centre Session 2017-18 Bulletin 28**

### **Learning**

We had a chat with the children on Wednesday and asked them to reflect on what we have been learning about. We were impressed by how much the children have retained and recorded some of their responses in our floor book for you to have a look at. They continued to enjoy creating flags, postcards and passports this week and some even made their own mini books on World Book Day. We enjoyed our brief play in the snow on Wednesday and we brought some indoors to explore in our discovery tray on Friday. We will continue to observe and follow the children's interest in countries this coming week and may consult with them about where they wish to take their learning next.

### **Questionnaires**

Our response to our recent questionnaires is available on edmodo and hard copies have been given to those who have requested. Thank you again for your feedback we look forward to making the suggested improvements and using this feedback to inform next sessions priorities.

### **Improvement priorities - family learning**

Our improvement priorities this session include developing children's numeracy and literacy skills particularly in the areas of counting and recognising numbers and awareness of letters. We recognise this importance of families and home learning in supporting children's development and we are planning to create some home link activities focussing on developing key skills in these areas. Our plans for the remainder of the term are overleaf. We welcome your feedback as always, please pop some comments in our family floorbook. Photos of you enjoying the activities and comments from the children are most welcome too! I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of our current literacy home link activities which are always available; these include our Story Sacks (cubed unit in foyer) and our lending library (next to the secure door in foyer). Next term we are hoping to create a 'Sounds Around' home link activity to develop your child's awareness of letters and sounds.

## Numeracy - supporting learning at home

Alongside investigating countries the children have been exploring numbers and quantities throughout the playroom. The children are all at different stages of understanding with number, some recognise some numerals and can match these to quantities, some are still developing their touch counting skills and some are now able to 'subitise' which means they can recognise amounts without having to count - a common example of this is recognising 'dot patterns' on a dice. This concept is fundamental to your child developing a strong sense of number which aids with mental calculations later in life, as early on they begin to see number relationships - in the example of a dice, two sets of two is four, two sets of three is six etc. To give you some ideas and opportunities to support your child's development of number sense at home we are creating a few simple classic dice games that you can try at home. These will be available to borrow in the foyer in the upcoming weeks.

## Literacy - Supporting Learning at home

We have set up our in centre lending library again. This is in addition to our lending library in the foyer where you can sign out books to enjoy at home at any time. Each week your child will choose a book to take home and read, they may also select an activity to complete with this. Within their folder there will be top tips for reading at home. On a Tuesday the children will have time in their groups to discuss the books they have chosen or share any activities completed. If your child does not attend on a Tuesday they will have the chance to share at another point (large together time, lunch time etc.). We would welcome you to share any activities that you complete in relation to your book on edmodo or twitter, tagging the school page! We look forward to discussing the stories with the children.



## PEEP

Will be on again on Friday from 9-10ish (sometimes this can run on if you are havina lots of fun!)

## Baby Massage

A new block is starting on Monday in the community hub from 1:30pm-2:30pm more details on the school website under community room (within classes tab).