

We hope you had a lovely weekend and enjoyed a bit less rain! Although last week was rainy at times, the weather is generally getting warmer, and we had quite a few sunny spells. We will continue to talk with the children about how we look after ourselves when the weather is warm and sunny as we move towards Summer. Thank you if you have already sent in a named hat for when the weather is sunny. The sun is now getting stronger and even on cloudier days the children may need some sun protection. The children need to arrive at nursery with their sun cream applied. The all-day children may need a top up. Thank you if you have already sent in a named bottle of suncream to stay at nursery. We are aware that some sunscreens last 8 hours or longer now. If your child will be wearing an all-day suncream, perhaps you could let us know, so we know they are protected.

Thank you for adding names to children's bottles, lunchboxes, clothes, shoes, and wellies. Although the children may know their possessions well at home, when things are alongside lots of others that are similar, it can get confusing. We have a new permanent marker pen in Nursery if you need to use it or are happy to put names on if you let us know, thank you.

Also, a reminder that if your child started this term and you would like them to have milk at snack time, don't forget to sign up for that. If your child is signed up for milk and does not want their milk, we will give it to them to take home, as we are no longer allowed to give milk to other children who may want it and we have a great deal going to waste.

Last week we did more planting. The children planted some Marigolds and Nasturtiums in the garden. It has been great to hear so many sunflowers are starting to grow and to hear how excited the children were about the growth. Thank you to Noah for sharing his pictures and his Seed to Sunflower book. This week we will share the story *Camille and the Sunflowers* and look at Sunflowers by Vincent Van Gogh, before creating some sunflowers of our own.

Best wishes
Ellie Green & Kelly McIlroy



Building Blocks for Reading



Sounds of the Week

Last week we learnt the sounds made by the letters g, o, c, and k. The children did very well remembering the sounds the letters made, and most did well identifying these sounds at the start of words. Keep working on hearing the sounds at the start of words and sounding out simple words e.g., 'Can you get your *h-a-t*, to protect you from the *s-u-n*? The children could try to tell you some words that start with sounds you give, or perhaps find something round the house or out and about that starts with one of the sounds we have learnt. This week we will learn *u, b, f, e*.

Last week we shared the story of Jack & the Beanstalk. You might want to retell the story together and try one of these activities.

The beanstalk was very tall. Can you find something in your house that is taller than you and something in your house that is shorter than you?



When you go to the supermarket, have a look at all the different shapes, sizes and colours that beans come in. They often come in tins or in packets (dried) but can be a bit tricky to find!



Imagine a giant beanstalk grew in your garden! Draw a picture of what you would like to find at the top of your beanstalk. Can you write your name on your picture?