

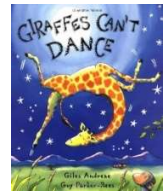


Topaz News

Jigsaw



This week Jigsaw Jenie wanted us to think about something that we have found tricky to start with, but because we kept trying and didn't give up, we can now do. The children were really good at thinking about things like riding bikes, swimming and writing where they had needed to keep practising until they could do something. We linked our writing to this and have made a display in the classroom to remind us not to give up when things are tricky. We shared the story of Gerald who wanted to dance which we all loved.



The Jigsaw sessions always incorporate some breathing exercises as well so that we start to appreciate that we can help ourselves to feel calm. Next week Jenie will be asking the children to think about something that they can't do yet but they would like to set as a goal for the next few weeks. You could help your child at home by helping them think about this before the session. It might be something at home, or something in school.

You will have read about our focus on Better Behaviours in Mrs Williams newsletter so we are talking about the three school rules, be kind, be responsible and be respectful. In class we are encouraging the children to be responsible for their own things. You can help with this by giving your child something to be responsible for at home. It could be remembering their book bag or making their bed etc.

Star-gazing

The children are getting more knowledgeable and interested in our space project. I know that some of you took advantage of the clear night sky this week to go looking for stars. We have a song that we are learning to help with star names.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SjBGpA2Muyc>

Next Friday, 31.01.2020, we hope to star gaze together at 5pm. This will be weather dependent so we monitor the weather through the week. If it is not possible then, the infants are planning a bedtime story session so we will try to get something set up for then as an alternative. More details to follow.

Phonic and number keyrings

The phonic keyrings now have the digraphs included on them. Many thanks to our parent helpers as these are very time consuming. Please use these to practise sounds several times a week until they become very fluent as they need to recognise them quickly for reading and recall the shape of them for writing. With the number keyrings, show them a number and see if they can count back from that number to 0 or ask them for the number one less. We are also building fluency with this.

Next week we have a visitor coming to do a dragon dance with us for Chinese New Year.

Please send tubes and boxes (smaller than cereal size) for model making.

Many thanks for your support, *Sally Windmill*