

Dear parents and carers,

This week we are all back to normal and we will be building on the learning and experiences that your children enjoyed their first week back after half term.

World book day



World book day was a chance to dress up as loved and favourite characters. We enjoy books together regularly throughout the day so our usual discussions in dialogic reading group times were brought to life through chosen costumes.



Mini Chipping Norton in the garden



Marlena created a model Chipping Norton outside in the garden. We supported the children to think about and describe their local area and community by bringing their ideas about what they know in their locality into their play. The children had the chance to experience a sense of connection to where they live. Their self-identity and self-esteem are nurtured by this.

The children roleplayed in the town hall, worked the fire station, used the car parks, drove round the roundabouts.



We created our own maps; followed arrows and clues;

had a nice cup of coffee or juice in café Nero.

Waited at the bus stop; visited the library; and, played in the town hall.





Mini chipping Norton inside

Inside, Jenny made the block area into a mini chipping Norton small world with a road layout and photos of town buildings attached to blocks for the children to create scenes and stories and routes through.



Forest school making routes



Mark-making routes and paths



Linking growing skills in mark-making to the idea of making maps is very engaging. We discussed types of paths and used words like zig-zags, straight, curved, dotted to describe the lines as we make them.



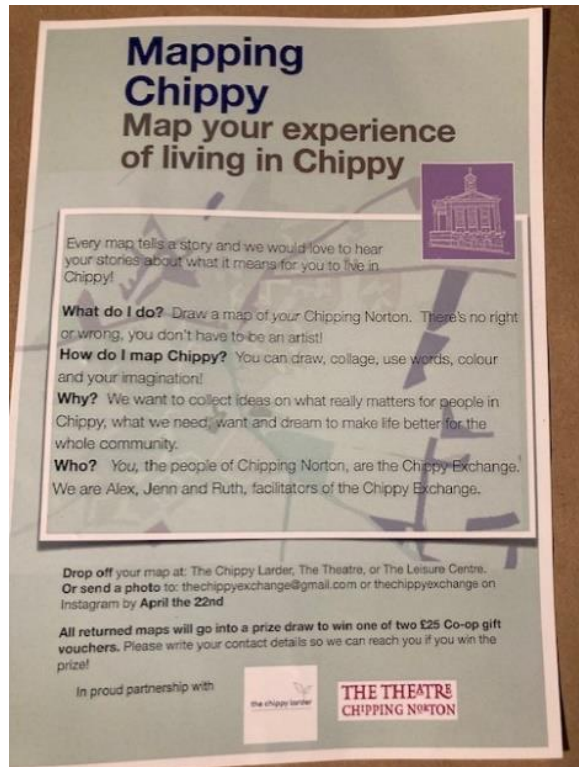
As always, mark-making takes place in many media, such as tracing lines through cornflour loop.



We also looked at making story maps of books we enjoyed reading. This is a great way to get active learning from reading. The ideas and connections of the story come out through the story map as children draw the story and discuss the world they are capturing.



Maps after half term



Don't forget that you can carry on map making at home and plot your favourite parts of Chipping Norton together.

We really look forward to seeing your maps when you have finished them.

5th March 2022



Saturday 5th of March was a super work morning in the garden. Thank you very much to the seventeen volunteers from Kingham Hill School who turned up with wheelbarrows and spades and moved four tonnes of sand from the car park to our sandpit.



They worked hard and enjoyed achieving the task.
Thank you as well to Jenn, who came and dug over the allotment earth,
ready for spring planting.



This week we will be looking for signs of spring and continuing with our
map making work.

Our poem is about the Spring wind blowing roughly and then blowing
gently.

