

Lemur Class Visit – Spring Term 25

It was once again a pleasure to visit Lemur class to observe one of their maths lessons. When I arrived, the children are all sat on their individual beanbag cube cushions and are having a class discussion about healthy eating. Mrs Walsh explained to me that a few of the children had sniffles and colds and so as fruit snack was being eaten the discussion had organically occurred about how what we eat can help our bodies fight off illnesses. It was lovely to see the children so engaged and they were all listening attentively and asking appropriate questions.

Mrs Walsh then explained to the class that it was time for Problem Solving Friday for maths. The children were all very excited. They recapped their previous learning from the week on data collection, bar charts and different questions e.g. most/least. The children were shown the worksheet they would all complete during the lesson before Mrs Walsh directed them to their tables. Some children were told to work independently, when some apprehension was shown staff knew exactly what to say to support them and give them the necessary confidence to complete the task. Other children were worked with on a 1:1 basis using practical resources and whiteboards to aid. It was a lovely task with a practical element of cutting and sticking as well as the maths element of answering statistics questions using the pictogram they had made. TA's were on each table to support all the children with one TA modelling the cutting before the child having a go. He was then not happy with how it had been cut which the TA noticed quickly and got him a new sheet. All the children had the same work to complete but it was differentiated as to how they would complete the task.

All of the children were fully engaged throughout the task, and it was great to see one child who was not confident completing it independently given all the positivity from staff that he could do it. He was so proud of himself with a beaming smile when he then showed his completed and correct work to Mrs Walsh. Once finished the children completed their green sheets which are a sheet of mixed maths questions to assess any learning needs. All of these were at a suitable level for each child depending upon their ability. One child finished his sheet and Mrs Walsh checked with the TA what level he had and how he had got on with it. The TA was able to report to Mrs Walsh which area of maths he needs some extra support with.

To finish the lesson the children were able to access their individual laptop once they had completed their green sheet in order to play some maths games. The children quietly retrieved their laptops as to not disturb those still working.

It was a brilliant lesson to observe, and Lemurs are a really lovely group. They are all so polite and the classroom was a very calm environment for them. They are well supported by the staff in class who are all aware of the children's individual needs whether it be academic, sensory or behaviour. Well done everyone.