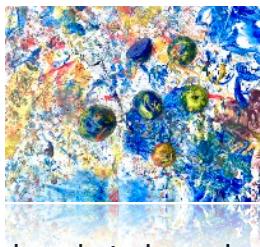


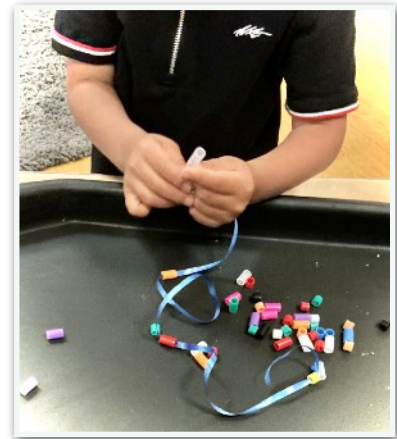
STRONG CLOSE16/09/26

Autumn Apple Explorers 🍏 🍏



This week we began by threading beads to hang below the lovely willow mobile that we decorated last week. It's quite a fiddly activity, but they all managed really well. M, M, Alfie, A and A all had a great time doing this, M especially spent ages carefully threading the beads

As we were choosing colours, M told me that her favourite colour is pink and Daddy's favourite colour is green



As soon as the weather picked up a little, we headed outside and began decorating a large sheet of cardboard that we will work on further as a autumn display. We painted shades of yellow, red and green, the children loved experimenting with the rollers and different brushes, as well as using their hands!

A, A, J, E, M, M, A, Y, A and M particularly enjoyed this. It was Y first full day and he was very curious about everything going on around him

A always loves painting with me, and I watched her experimenting with lots of different techniques. She's so expressive with the paint, splatting it, rolling it and finding all sorts of different ways to make marks.

I also watched M moving from pot to pot, trying out all the different brushes and rollers experimenting with them. It was lovely to see her being so creative and growing in confidence. She was super excited when she covered her hands in paint, made a handprint and shouted, "I made my hands!"





I had the pleasure of going to the apple tree with the children to pick some apples. There's such an abundance of them on the tree at the moment, although quite a lot were a little too high for us to reach! The children enjoyed holding the bowls and watching them gradually become fuller. They even came up with their own game of "apple tag", passing the apples from child to child until eventually they reached the bowl. A lovely bit of teamwork!

Later J and L enjoyed working side by side at the easel. J was showing L how to paint her hands and make handprints, which was really sweet to watch, especially as L is new to the nursery.

Afterwards, we went outside to do some apple printing, which seemed very apt after we'd



been picking apples from the tree! Lots of children joined in, including A, B, L, L, L, J, A and E, as well as many others.

I'd brought in some little crab apples, as there were so many lying underneath the tree on my morning walk. They're perfect for little hands to hold. I chopped some of them in half for printing, the children could see the lovely little star shape inside where the seeds are, these made interesting prints on the paper.

We also experimented with apple rolling. A really enjoyed watching the different tracks the apple made as it rolled through the paint, we spent quite a while rolling it backwards and forwards to each other. A sat herself down on the paper and began experimenting with handprints all around where she was sitting, as well as stamping with the apples. Again, she was so expressive with the paint, finding her own ways to explore it and make marks. L loved the sensory experience of feeling the apple in her hands, sliding it around her hands and on the paper, completely covered in paint.





When the children had finished printing, we brought out a cardboard tube and discovered another way to use our apples. We rolled them down the tube and the children absolutely loved watching them appear at the other end! As the paint on the paper was still wet, the apples continued to move the colours around as they rolled.

The children did really well at taking turns, collecting up the apples and feeding them back through the tube. J and another child spent ages watching and waiting for the apples to roll out. At one point J lay down on the floor so she could get a really good view and squealed with excitement as the apple appeared from the end of the tube!

Lots of the other children became involved too, and what began as apple printing developed naturally into a lovely game of rolling, collecting, watching and taking turns.

