

Our theme of "Cold as Ice" has really got the children thinking. The Children have been investigating snow, ice and water. What is snow?, What happens to ice when it gets warm and what happens to water when we put it in the freezer. They have been busy experimenting with ice, stacking ice cubes to make towers and watching what happens to the ice when they added it to hot water.

The children have been watching weather forecasts to see what weather we will be expecting. The children were all very excited when it started to snow! We enjoyed walking in the snow catching snowflakes and making footprints in the snow. We decided it was only right to finish up our snowy day enjoying a delicious cup of hot chocolate to warm us all up, Mmmmmmm.

We have also been celebrating Chinese New year. This year is the year of the Pig. The children have been enjoying doing a variety of activities such as making lanterns, where we have been focusing on the children's scissor control and being able to cut along a straight line. We have been mark making in rice using our fingers to write the letters of our name, helping muscular development to aid their writing skills and formation of letters. As well as some brilliant water paintings of the year of the pig and Chinese dragons. We also watched a video of a Chinese New Year parade where we saw the Chinese dragon puppets dancing. We have also been looking at Chinese letters and numbers and learning to write the letters of their names in Chinese.

We have also learnt to say Happy New Year in Chinese, which is gung hey fat choy!

Little Chefs continues to be very popular with the children and they are developing their culinary skills such as measuring and following recipes. This term they have been focusing on using tools such as cheese graters, food processors and rolling pins and knives. They are learning how important it is to use these correctly and safely.

They have been making a variety of different recipes such as Cheese straw icicles and creating Iceberg meringues. They used oranges for the filling of their meringues as it is a lucky fruit of Chinese New year. They cracked eggs and separated the yolk from the whites. The children enjoyed whizzing up the whites making it fluffy like snow, they were very excited to see that when whizzed, the egg whites changed and they were able to hold the mixture over their heads without it falling out.

For Valentines day the children have been thinking about their friends and families and being kind and thoughtful. We have been busy in the kitchen making Valentines day heart shape pizzas.

On behalf of Checkendon Pre-School C.I.O. we would like to say thank you so much for your continued support.

To find out more about Checkendon Pre-School do visit our website www.checkendonpreschool.co.uk, call us on 01491 682589, e-mail preschoolcheckendon@gmail.com or just pop in – we always look forward to welcoming you to Checkendon Pre-School C.I.O.

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