



Macaws newsletter



Mushroom our pet mouse!

On the morning of 10/11/2023 Gem and other members of Ashgate staff found abandoned pet mice, six in total. The mice were left overnight in cardboard boxes on the field next to school.

The Macaws class team and children placed them into a temporary cage, fed them and made them warm and safe.

Throughout the day several of the Macaws children became fond of the mice. Watching them play, eat and drink. It became apparent that the children wanted to keep a mouse as a class pet.



Fortunately, we found homes for the other five mice and kept one. We have named him Mushroom. Mushroom now has a cage fit for royalty.

The children are learning how to care for Mushroom. This links to a Knowledge and Understanding of the World curriculum target of:

To learn how to treat living things with respect and kindness.



Each morning the children will share the responsibility of:

Cleaning Mushroom's cage, feeding him, making sure he has new fresh bedding and clean water.

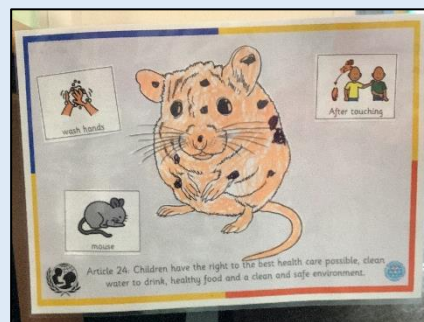
An adult will always be there to closely supervise the children and model expectations/safety.



Before leaving for home the children will have the opportunity to watch Mushroom play and explore. We plan on creating him a play area so the children can observe Mushroom out of his cage. Again, this will be closely supervised by an adult.

We are learning the importance of good hygiene. After touching either Mushroom or his cage we must wash our hands. The children have created visual posters to remind everyone of this very important rule.

We have displayed a poster next to Mushroom's cage and one on the Macaws class door. This way visitors will also know our class rule and participate in good hygiene too.



During the school holidays we would love Mushroom to spend the break with a child and their family. Please let us know if this is something you can offer. His cage, food and any other necessities will be provided. Mushroom has a smaller cage for home visits too.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact Gem or any other member of the Macaws class staff. You can contact Gem via email on:

g.yabsley@ashgate.manchester.sch.uk

Alternatively, you can call the school on:

0161 359 5322