



Nursery News Update

February Half Term Holidays



Friday 13th February 2015

Dear Parents,

We hope you and your child have a relaxing and fun half term holiday! The children really do deserve it after their hard work over the last six weeks which has been filled with fun, adventure, exploration and poignant learning experiences! It's been a pleasure to see how much they have settled into our new learning environment and how happily they come into nursery everyday. Learning continues for the children outside of nursery so we have provided them with a holiday diary sheet. We want the activity to capture key memories, and your child's diary sheet will be put into their learning journeys along with those that are already in there!

Reading



We have changed all children's reading books for the holidays and have provided them with a new book. We would like to take the opportunity to thank you for the fantastic entries into the children's diaries and we are thrilled with how many of the children are developing a love of reading. We would actively encourage children to read a range of other books over the holidays.

We have had requests from parents about an update of what children are learning in Nursery as many parents are noticing new skills children are acquiring. Therefore we have made a little bulletin of what's happening.



Maths

We have been focusing on recognising and writing numbers 0-9. Children have used chalk, water and paint pots and forming these in messy play activities such as glitter trays. Activities have also centred around counting objects in a line, touching each object once and as always we have enjoyed singing lots of rhymes such as 'Five Little Speckled Frogs', '1,2,3,4,5' and 'Ten in the Bed.' You can access many of these on BBC Number Rhymes website which the children enjoy.

Talking with Mr. Tumble



We are starting to look at using Makaton (a sign and symbol programme to support communication) in Nursery to ensure our learning environment is inclusive of all children. We will be using Mr. Tumble as a link to this and having a new sign each week from his spotty bag.

Letters and Sounds

Children have loved learning their letter sounds with the help of the cbeebies Alphablocks. The children have been learning letter sounds...

m a s d t

Children have been looking at hearing initial sounds in words with these letters, e.g. s for sock. They have also looked at hearing rhymes such as cat, sat, mat, pat, hat, that, bat. We have also been blending CVC words, e.g. cat. Adults say the sounds c – a – t and the children say the word.

Entering Nursery



We have been approached by a parent about concerns around children entering nursery. They have said many others have expressed similar concerns. We have adjusted the entrance system where Mrs Groser will stand on the door into the main nursery room where another three members of staff are supervising until doors are locked which is when key worker time begins. Mrs Bell will be in the cloakroom for you to discuss any queries or pass any messages on. We hope this reassures you that we have every child's education, happiness, well being and safety as our priority.

New Nursery Flooring

We are having the nursery floor fully refurbished during the half term. So you will notice this along with new rugs and arrangement of areas for children. We have discussed the changes that will be happening with the children and they are already excited to return to Nursery.

Blossoming Garden

We are continuing to develop our garden area and the new vegetable patch is continuing to be prepared. We are creating a small pond and mini beast area to support children's developing understanding of the world around them!

Spring Term 2

As the provision has developed so has the children's interests which staff are using to drive learning forward. Many new interests have been observed and following the restructure of furniture we will be resourcing areas to support children's skills and development. Therefore learning will be planned around...

Fairytales

We are creating a brand new castle ballroom with many beautiful costumes fit for a ball. We will be adding a disco ball, music, mirrors and many mark making resources such as invitations and scrolls. We wonder who shall go to the ball?

Dinosaurs

We are creating a new exciting water and sand play based museum. Children will be able to explore dinosaur eggs hatching (this is a surprise they don't know about), excavation activities, looking at bones, fossils – the learning is endless.

Growing

Planting of seeds will be taking place in March for our vegetable patch however we are going to be starting to plant our herb garden before this. We have many more exciting activities planned around real life growth so watch this space.

Other Links

The children remain interested in Fire Stations and engines so this will be further explored. Children have also enjoyed the train set so links to transport will be observed. Animals is also an up and coming interest so staff will be monitoring this.

If you can help out in anyway, e.g. you know any fire fighters who could come and talk to the children, have any skills from your job you could come and show the children please see staff. We would love to invite you in to support learning.

Nursery Fund

As we strive to make learning tangible, engaging and based around not only your child's specific learning needs but their interests, we are hoping that you will be able to support us each week with 50p to help with costs. This will go towards play dough that children can now request to make to their own recipe during exploring time, ingredients for baking, allowing us to have additional snacks such as toast or breadsticks, seeds to plant and to cover any newly bought items to support provision.



We will be placing out a new Nursery Money Box in the cloakroom and we really would appreciate your contributions as would the children!

We would like to thank all of the children and their families for a fantastic half term, it has been wonderful to work with you all. We would like to express our sincere thanks for all of your support as it really does make the difference to the children. We look forward to seeing you on Monday 23rd February.

THANK YOU

Thank you

Mrs Bell, Mrs Groser, Mrs Goodall, Mrs Lowes, Mrs Hill and Mrs Nicholson

