



Nursery News

HAPPY EASTER!!!



Wednesday 5th April 2017

Dear Parents,

We hope you and your child have a fantastic Easter holiday filled with lots of fun and laughter! The children are now ready for a rest after a very busy half term which has been filled with amazing learning and memories. The children have LOVED our animal theme and this is continuing into next half term alongside an evolving interest in dinosaurs. Learning continues for the children outside of nursery so we have provided the children with a holiday diary sheet. We want the activity to capture key memories, and your child's diary sheet will be put into their new Summer term learning journeys that will eagerly await them on their return to Nursery to capture their new significant memories.

We have included a list of dates for your diary.

Summer 1

- **Monday 24th April; Return to School**
- **Monday 1st May; May Bank Holiday (NO NURSERY)**
- **Tuesday 2nd May; Return to School**
- **Wednesday 24th May; Stadium of Light Trip**
- **Wednesday 24th May; New Reception Parents Information 6pm** (Further information to follow)
- **Friday 26th May; INSET DAY (NO NURSERY)**
- **Friday 26th May; School Finishes**

Summer 2

- **Friday 30th June; Summer Fayre**
- **Nursery Concerts; information regarding dates will be sent out next half term**

Book Diaries



We have kept book dairies until after the holidays as we have sent out holiday diaries. We usually send both however we really want to focus on holiday experiences and all children will share these on their first session back to Nursery during key worker.

Holiday diary entries will be placed into Learning Journals as we place a strong emphasis on home school links. We also have home learning story sheets in the entrance porch (in the green tray) for those of you wishing to complete these.

A reminder that if book diaries are returned the day they are to be sent out staff are unable to comment in these due to the daily routines in Nursery. We hope you support us with this.

Maths



After half term we will begin to have a focus on shape as well as positional language alongside our number focus weeks. These will be modelled in key worker activities.

You can support your children at home through their everyday experiences. We would ask that children look for shapes in their environment, e.g. spotting the circle wheels on the bus, a rectangle door when walking down the street. Positional language will support children with instructions, e.g. put the cup on top of the table.

Continuing to spot numbers when out and about, forming them in messy play, counting everyday objects as well as solving problems will continue to support children's developing number skills.

Letters and Sounds



Children have continued to enjoy learning their letter sounds with the help of the cbeebies Alphablocks. We have now looked at recognising, forming and hearing letter sounds...

m a s d t p i n o g c k u b

Children have been looking at hearing initial sounds in words with these letters, e.g. p for pea. They have also looked at hearing rhymes such as win, tin, fin, bin. We have also been blending CVC words, e.g. dog. Adults say the sounds d- o - g and the children say the word. After the holidays no new sounds will be taught for the first few weeks as we consolidate sounds taught so far. We will inform you when new sounds have been taught.

PE



We will begin outdoor PE sessions after the Easter holidays. We use the Nursery outdoor area to do this so on occasions it may be weather permitting. Children will carry out activities which involve moving in different ways, playing team games, developing co-ordination and thinking skills as well as having fun.

PE sessions will be on a **Wednesday**.

We ask that all children come dressed in their usual jumper/cardigan and school t-shirt with trainers and tracksuit bottoms or leggings. During these sessions we will begin practising our best moves for the Dance Festival.



iPads

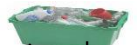
We will be introducing iPads to the children after the holidays and a member of staff will support children in using these initially. Children will have an allocated time on these only to ensure they access a broad and balanced curriculum. We will be downloading apps to support children's maths and phonics skills as well as using the iPads for children to take pictures of their learning. We will keep you updated on our new technology skills.



Nursery Spare Clothing

Thank you to those of you who have returned the spare Nursery clothing. We will always take any donations people have for t-shirts, jumpers, cardigans, skirts, trousers, socks, tights and underpants.

Junk Modelling



Thank you to those of you who have continued to send in junk modelling resources. We now have a large stock of boxes, bottles and containers that will keep children busy for a few weeks. We will let you know again when we next need junk.

Easter Activities

We have had lots of fun carrying out Easter activities in Nursery. Children have created their own personalised egg cup, made a chick hand puppet and Easter nest. We also had fun with the parachute and an Easter egg hunt.



Take a look at all the fun we had!



Summer Learning



As we continue to tailor the learning to the needs and interests of the children we are planning new opportunities within Nursery. Staff have just implemented some new opportunities which will continue after the holidays. Learning taking place is based around...



Eggs

We have areas that are linked to hatching eggs including a dinosaur nest. Children also have these in a range of areas to promote what animals are hatched from eggs. We already have tadpoles and chick eggs will arrive in Summer 2!



Animals

We are extending our animal link into a 'Jungle Café' at the play dough area following children's interest in making delicious treats. We will also be extending our watering hole in the sand and water area which children have loved especially the compost tray.



Africa

Children have loved exploring about the animals that live in Africa. We plan to extend this through the story of Handa's Surprise. Children will be creating African necklaces, tasting fruits from the story and many more exciting opportunities.



Healthy Eating

We will be linking this into our PE focus. Children will explore different foods and what we should eat to make us grow healthy and strong. We will have a range of fun activities for children to carry out and will link this into the upcoming Olympics.

If you can help out in anyway, e.g. 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.



SSSHHH!!!!

On the 12th June we will be having a special arrival of chick eggs – please keep this quiet as the children do not know and we would like to plan this in to tell them.



Science Week

We had so much fun learning about animals, germs, space and sound with Dr Renwick.



Party Invitations

We have lots of birthdays in Nursery and staff are happy to give out invitations however these will be placed into children's trays for children to collect. We would ask that you check your child's tray on a regular basis to see if they have any invitations to take home.



Toys

Many of the children are still bringing toys into Nursery which are then placed in the kitchen for the Nursery session so that they are not damaged or broken. We would ask that for those children still bringing these parents take these home as children are taking these from trays to play with.



Dough D-I-S-C-O

The children have thoroughly enjoyed their dough disco sessions and this is already supporting their early writing skills. Many parents have asked what is involved in this and some have googled this which has led them to watch videos of the lady who created this. We do not follow this video instead we lead the sessions ourselves with a different song that has a good beat from a range of musical eras. In case you would like to do this at home with your child we have created a list of the movements we do at Nursery and the names we give them. Remember you can't really do this wrong as long as the children are moving in a range of ways, playing with the dough and having fun your on the right track!

You can do these in any order – mix them up and have fun!

The Football; warm your dough up with hands in a football shape.

The Roundabout; move the playdough around your waist, passing it to the opposite hand at the back and front. Change directions.

The Swim; make a windmill movement with your arm and as the arm comes down pass the playdough to the opposite hand and repeat on the other side.

The Box; place the dough in one hand and make a fist with the other, box the dough. Repeat on the opposite side.

The Croc; place the dough in one hand and snap the dough between the hands. Repeat on the opposite side.

Fingers at the Disco; with flat dough in the palm of your hand, press your fingers into the dough as though they are dancing. Repeat on the other side.

Sausage Roll; make a sausage roll with your dough.

To finish we always make our dough into a sausage and then a “minion squish” to place it back into the pot.



Stadium of Light Trip

Thank you to those of you who have sent in reply slips and money. We ask that all slips and money is returned as soon as possible after the holidays.

If your child is unable to attend these please could you send the slip back so that this can be marked off on our sheets for numbers.

We will send out information regarding the trip details after the holidays.



Fancy Dress

We are extending our home corner and are looking for donations for the children to use as dress ups. We would welcome any donations of...

- Hats
- Bags
- Costume jewellery
- Any other accessories

This will allow children to continue to develop independent skills of getting dressed and undressed which is a focus for the summer term.

Nursery Fund

Thank you to those of you who continue to support Nursery with your very kind donations. We have used the funds to buy Easter party snacks, play dough ingredients and other cookery activities.

The Nursery Money Box is in the cloakroom and we really would appreciate your contributions as would the children!



We wish you all a very happy Easter!

THANK YOU

Thank you for your continued support – we couldn't do it without you!
Mrs Bell, Mrs Lowes, Mrs Goodall, Mrs Cowley, Mrs Hewson and Mrs Hill

