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March 2023

Newsletter No 13 2022-2023

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Message from the Head teacher

I hope you all had a lovely half term break. What a very busy start back we have had with a variety of monitoring visits and our wonderful stay and play day.



Monitoring Feedback

We have had monitoring visits from our local authority school improvement advisor, one of our governors and our external advisor. They have been able to see the work which has been put in place by staff and a number of positive themes have been reported. These include the positive, caring relationships between staff and children and children with each other. Pupils are well managed, and staff have high expectations. The environments are welcoming and conducive to learning. Daily routines are well established. Learning opportunities are not missed and seamlessly woven into routines. Children are engaged, happy and confident. I would like to thank our visitors for their time and say a well done to the children and staff.



Our Learning

Bumblebees have been using the key text 'Let's look at bodies' to learn the vocabulary for body parts. This has been reinforced by using the potato people and body parts adding features such as eyes. The role play has been a doctors where children can look after babies. The children have enjoyed beginning to learn about brushing teeth too.



The children in Dragonflies have been reading the key text 'Jack and the Beanstalk' for their theme of 'Once upon a time'. Children have created a castle in the role play area to support the use of narratives in play. The children have also been drawing book characters when mark making.



Children have been thinking about capacity and weighing porridge for the Three Bears. A giant bean stalk has grown from the curiosity cube!

Ladybirds have been learning about 'People who help us' and reading the key text 'Firefighter.' Children have been using building and imaginative skills to build firestations with the Duplo firestation set.



The role play area has been a very busy doctors surgery with children helping their friends feel better. There has also been a police role play where the children put Miss Palmer in jail for making bad choices!

In Caterpillars the focus for learning has been Shape and Pattern. The key text is a book called 'Triangles.' Children have been making shapes from dough using a variety of shape cutters.



They have also used the cutters to print with. Children have used small pegs and boards to make patterns.

Butterflies class have also been learning about shapes and patterns. Their key text was 'Little Bears Shapes.' Children have been finding shapes in the environment, drawing around shapes to make pictures and making three-dimensional shapes from Polydron. Children have used peg boards to make their own patterns.



Home Learning Challenge

This half term the home learning challenge links to our early phonics and is all about listening to environmental sounds and then making sounds. Please see the attached homework challenge. Don't forget we love to celebrate learning at home so please share a photograph via the class email.



Recommended Read

The recommended read this newsletter is 'The Enormous Turnip.' This is a great traditional tale that uses repetitive language which really supports children telling the story for themselves as they see each new character introduced.



Staffing

I have some sad news for Nursery, but exciting news for Miss Palmer. Miss Palmer will be leaving Nursery on Friday 10th March, as she has secured a new and important role as a family worker. Miss Palmer has been working at the Nursery for a number of years and we have seen her exemplary practice grow. She has been a great role model to staff and children alike and will be sadly missed. I would like to take this opportunity to thank her for all her hard work and wish her every success for the future.



Toddler Group

Are you concerned your child has a speech and language difficulty?

We are delighted to tell you Sue Rogers, a speech and language therapist will be attending Toddler group on Thursday 9th March. If you have concerns about your child's understanding and communication, please attend toddler group and come and chat with her. Don't forget Toddler group runs on Thursday afternoons from 1.00pm-2.30pm in Bumblebees class.



World Book Day

Thank you to those parents/ carers who sent in favourite books when their children dressed up for World Book Day. It was lovely to see adults and children enjoying a range of books. Thanks also to the staff who all made such an effort with their outfits!



Stay and Play Day

Thank you so much to all those parents and carers who came to our stay and play day on Thursday 2nd March. It was lovely to have you with us so you can see how the children learn at Nursery. We shared a Literacy leaflet on the day- this is attached for any parents/ carers who were not able to make it on the day. We hope you find it useful. Don't forget if you have any questions about early reading or writing ask a member of staff. Thanks to those of you who shared comments on your visit. These can be read below:



- 'My daughter loved showing me all her work and pictures. She told me about her daily routines. Thank you for having me, it's been lovely to see!'
- 'Really lovely to see the Nursery and to see my son play. He really has a good time here. Also lovely to see him with his friends and to see his favourite toys and activities. Thank you.'
- 'We love coming into Nursery to see the environment the children play in. My daughter is very excited when we are able to come in and she can show us around.'
- 'As always it's a pleasure to come to see what my daughter gets up to at Nursery daily. She really enjoys being here and spending time with all her friends.'
- 'Lovely to see what my daughter gets up to at Nursery. She enjoyed showing me all the different areas in the classroom.'
- 'It was lovely to come and see my daughter at school and see how she plays. She was very proud to show off her classroom and friends to me and her brother.'
- 'Brilliant as always'
- 'Lovely to play with child.'
- 'Such a lovely time playing with the kids. Enjoyed it so much!'
- 'Lovely day seeing the children together.'
- 'Lovely morning seeing all the children playing and interacting with each other.'
- 'Lovely day, the children together- thank you.'
- 'Very good morning playing.'
- 'Fantastic morning. Thank you so much.'
- 'Brilliant to see what the children do with part of their day! Love to do it again.'
- 'We had a lovely day seeing how well the children are playing and learning together, thank you.'
- 'Amazing day for the kids enjoying dressing up and telling me the stories.'
- 'Really enjoyed stay and play day. My daughter loved showing me and her Dad everything she gets up to at Nursery. The staff are so helpful and caring. Keep up the good work.'
- 'Lovely to be invited to stay and play opportunity to see the environment, the beginning of the morning routine and how approachable, gentle and kind the educators are to children.'
- 'That was nice time together. Nice to see how this look inside.'
- 'We had a lovely afternoon together.'
- 'Thank you for letting us come and see all the fun the children have on a daily basis. Enjoyed every minute.'
- 'Had a lovely time thank you.'
- 'Spent an enjoyable time with my granddaughter. Good to see the children interacting with me and each other. Thank you.'
- 'Was nice to spend time with my son and see what he likes to do/play while at Nursery.'
- 'Had a great day with you all, thanks'
- 'Had a great time playing with my daughter. It was nice to see the things they do at Nursery.'

Paramedic Visit

On Friday 3rd March we were lucky to have a paramedic visit Nursery to talk to the children about this very important job. Paramedic Dan explained what a paramedic is- they are like a doctor who drives an ambulance responding to 999 calls to help people get better. He reminded children about what the emergency number is to call an ambulance- 999. He explained there are air ambulances, car ambulances and ambulances which respond in emergency situations. He talked about the siren noise and what it means and how fast ambulances go. He also asked children to wave if they see a paramedic driving past. This was a super visit with the children with the learning building on what Police Officer Sally taught us. I would like to thank Dan for his time and those kind enough to organize the visit.



Mother's Day Cards

From Monday 6th until Friday 17th March a range of Mother's Day and other cards will be on sale for 50p each. All proceeds will go to buying new books.



Easter Egg Raffle

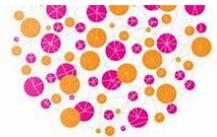
We would be delighted to accept any Easter Egg donations as part of our fund raising Easter Egg Raffle. Raffle tickets will go on sale on Wednesday 15th March. The raffle prizes will be drawn on Wednesday 29th March. Tickets will be £1 for 5 tickets. Good luck! All proceeds will go to buying new books.



Science Week

This year's Science week is from Monday 13th-Friday 17th March. The theme this year is 'Connections' (links)

10-13 MARCH
British
Science
Week
2023



Activity 1- Community Connections

1. Start by making a list of all the people that the children see and meet in their day-to-day life.
2. Ask 'Who do you see during your day?' 'How are you connected to these people?' 'How do these people help you?'
3. Challenge- Make a map and place people on the map as to where you see them
For example, the people at school, family members, swimming teachers etc.

Activity 2- Food Connections

1. Choose a fruit or vegetable
2. Talk about how it grows, is harvested, how it gets to the shops, bought, and the different ways it is prepared and eaten. Is this similar to any other fruit or vegetables? Why are fruit and vegetables so important for us to eat?
3. Talk about the people who help with each stage of this process (e.g. farmer, shop keeper)
4. Challenge- Make a book with pictures from each stage of the process

Mother's Day Singing Event

On Friday 17th March we would like to invite Mothers, Grandmothers and Aunties to a singing event at Nursery. The morning singing will take place at 11.15am. The afternoon singing will take place at 2.45pm. For children who attend all day, please select either event.



Consultations

Consultations will be the week beginning 20th March. There will be a sheet up the week before to sign up for a slot. This is a lovely opportunity for you to meet staff 1:1 and find out what your child has been doing at Nursery, share learning at home and discuss next steps.



World Poetry Day

Tuesday 21st March is World Poetry Day.

Activity 1- Read a Nursery Rhyme Book – you can borrow one from the library!

Activity 2- Learn a new Nursery Rhyme- See leaflet attached



Library Prizes

Every term all children who have borrowed a book from the library, this term including the book castle, is automatically entered into our library prize draw!

There is still time for your child to be entered and win a prize- borrow a book today!

This term the prize draw will take place on Wednesday 29th March.



Resources, Toys, Clothes and Fruit

Thank you for your generous donations of recycled materials, pre-loved toys and clothes and fruit sent in to Nursery. This has been gratefully received and used.



Termly Donations

Thank you for the kind termly donations and the significant number of families who donated more than requested. The children have loved the messy play with playdough, rice, pasta etc which we have used the donations for.



Mobile Phones

Please remember mobile phones are not allowed on site. Please put your mobile phone away when coming through the pedestrian gate.



Illness

Please remember children who are unwell with coughs, temperatures and other illnesses should not be coming to Nursery. Please do not administer Calpol as this masks symptoms. Please only bring children to Nursery who are well enough. We want to protect others, thank you.



Well-Being

Children's Self-Care Scavenger Hunt

1. Hug someone you love
2. Find and play with your favourite toy
3. Find something nice to touch
4. Sing/ dance to a song you like
5. Find something that makes you smile

Adult Self-Care Scavenger Hunt

1. Hug someone you love
2. Share a smile
3. Find time for yourself (e.g. a bath, reading a book)
4. Write down something nice someone has said about you
5. Find a photo about a special memory



Act of Kindness Reminder

Nursery has recourse to support families who they are aware may need some essential extras.

- Basic food e.g. tins/ packets
- Toiletries/ cleaning products
- Clothing e.g. coat/ hat/ gloves
- Stationery packs to support children's mark making

Please see the 'Act of Kindness' statement on the website.

Please remember to access the Nursery larder when you go to borrow a book.



Crisis

If you are in crisis and need support with fuel debt, replacement white goods, food, bedding or winter clothing we can access support from the children's centre. Please speak to Mrs Collins.



Key Dates this Term

Monday 6th March. Mother's Day & other cards go on sale

Monday 13th- Friday 17th March. British Science Week- Connections

Wednesday 15th March. Easter Egg Raffle Tickets go on sale

Sunday 19th March. Mother's Day, celebrated on Friday 17th March. Singing event at 11.15am & 2.45pm

Monday 20th March. Consultations Dragonflies

Tuesday 21st March. World Poetry Day

Tuesday 21st March. Consultations Ladybirds

Wednesday 22nd March. Consultations Butterflies

Thursday 23rd March. Consultations Caterpillars

Thursday 23rd March. Last toddler group of the term

Friday 24th March. Consultations Bumblebees

Wednesday 29th March. Easter Egg Raffle Draw/ Library Prize Draw

Thursday 30th March. Last day of Spring term

Friday 31st March. Nursery closed for pupils



2022-2023 School Holiday Dates

31.03.23-14.04.23 Easter Holiday School closed

01.05.23 Bank Holiday School closed

08.05.23 Nursery Closed for King's Coronation Bank Holiday

29.05.23-02.06.23 Half Term School closed

21.07.23 Last day of Summer Term

