

9th March 2018

Dear Parents

Firstly I would like to thank all the Dads who came and took part in the activities at the nursery last week. It was lovely to see such enthusiasm and the children have been speaking positively about the creations they have made ready for Sunday😊.

World Book Day was a big success with lots of children talking positively about their favourite books and why they like them. Please remember we have the nursery Bedtime Story Library and we urge you to encourage your children to use this facility. We have recently changed the books to give the children a wider range of subjects such as Easter and other celebratory events approaching. If there are any particular types of books you would like to see in the library, please let us know on one of the leaves on the blossom tree.

We will be learning all about St Patricks Day on Friday 16th March and would appreciate any help from parents/ grandparents that could contribute to activities for the day, whether you do Irish dancing that you could teach or if there is a traditional Irish dish which you could cook with the children, please contact the office or let your child's key person know.

Mobile Phones

Please can I insist that parents/ carers must NOT be using their mobile phones in the nursery? Recently it has happened on several occasions where staff have had to politely request for parents not to answer calls or generally be using their mobile phones whilst dropping off/collecting their children.

Safeguarding your children

Please do not send medication in your child's bag, along with nappy sacks or any other items which could be harmful to children. All of the children's bags are at heights that are accessible to give the children independence in accessing their own belongings and we do not wish for this to be a hazard.

Staffing

We would like to welcome Emily Stratton to the nursery. Emily is going to be training towards her Level 2 in Childcare and Education. Emily will be completing her mentoring period in the Tweenies room but as she settles in she will move around the nursery to build on her experience.

I would like to congratulate Sayida for completing her level 2 in Childcare and Education, congratulations Sayida.

Further dates for your diary.....

Thursday 29th March- Easter Day

Please don't forget as mentioned in our last newsletter about our Easter Bonnet Competition. All bonnets need to be in by 9.00am on Thursday 29th March, we are looking forward to seeing some fabulous creations!

Tuesday 3rd April

We will be raising awareness of the Autistic Spectrum Disorder..... We will update you with details about what this event will entail in a separate letter.

Nursery Closures

Friday 30th March: Good Friday

Monday 2nd April: Easter Monday

New Menu

We will soon be reviewing the nursery Menu again for the Spring/Summer period. Please feel free to recommend any favourite home dishes you would like to see on the menu by filling in one of the leaves in the porch and placing it on the blossom tree.

Quality Improvements

Lauren has been working with the staff very closely implementing the nurseries improvement focus of continuous provision.

A little bit about continuous provision.....

The purpose of an effective continuous provision is to offer children a constant environment that is safe for them to explore whilst challenging their learning. It should allow children the freedom to explore and become independent in making choices. An important part of the EYFS is to support children in becoming active learners; continuous provision allows children to demonstrate this aspect and practitioners can closely observe this during their play. *Continuous provision* supports children's learning and development across all seven areas along with the characteristics of effective learning (How children learn).

Continuous provision enables practitioners to take children on a journey, the environment is key to supporting children on this journey. To help further children's development it is important for children to be able to return to explorations daily and to explore new ideas. Children need to be given time to thoroughly explore the learning experiences, practitioners need to appreciate that it is fundamental that children are given opportunities to build on what they did yesterday or even a few weeks ago. Giving children time is precious as it enables them to fully explore their ideas and concepts which is highly important for children when taking them on a journey.

Within **continuous provision** children are able to explore the environment and develop independence. It also allows children to make choices and initiate their own play.

Peer Observations

Staff are currently completing their quarterly peer observations on their colleagues to improve their practice across the nursery. Giving effective feedback on how they can improve their practice and enhance activities.

Self-Evaluation

We have recently placed our self-evaluation board within the main nursery corridor so we can clearly communicate how we are aiming to improve our service. We have clear defined targets which all staff are aware of so please feel free to take a look.

Regards

Helen Poyser
Managing Director