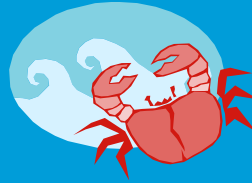


SUFFIELD PARK NURSERY NEWSLETTER



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February 2015

A message from the Nursery Team...

We cannot believe how quickly this half term has flown by! We have been very busy and the children have all settled beautifully. This half term we have had a visit from our Early Years Advisor who was very impressed with how engaged and well-behaved the children were, we feel incredibly proud of them!

A busy half term...

The children in The Rock Pool have been exploring lots of different textures and have enjoyed group singing times which have supported the development of their Communication and Language skills. Baking opportunities have supported the children to take turns and use spoons and whisks to mix.

The children in The Coral Reef have been enjoying their Space topic, making rockets and baking star shaped biscuits. This week some of the children have been lucky enough to visit Cromer Library where they shared a snack, a story and borrowed some Space stories to read at Nursery. The children really enjoyed their visit and we would encourage you to join the library if you are not already members.

Children in The Deep Blue Sea have spent time focusing on different stories, they are getting very good at retelling stories using lots of actions. They have become fantastic authors this week making up their own stories, we have been very impressed with their imaginative ideas! Many of the children are using familiar story language such as 'Once upon a time' in the stories they have written. We have proudly shared their stories during our group sessions.

The Woods

The children in The Deep Blue Sea have spent time in the woods over the last few weeks with Kerry Whincop. They have painted the snowdrops and their amazing artwork is displayed on the fence outside, do take a look! They have also enjoyed storytelling sessions related to Little Red Riding Hood, and the context of the woods helped the story come alive! The children will continue to have the opportunity to spend time in the woods, initially on Monday afternoons and Tuesday mornings. We are planning to incorporate this into the experiences planned in The Coral Reef. Kerry is looking forward to her Level 1 Forest Schools training in March and we are planning to visit Dandelion Forest School Nursery to learn more about the approach.

Morrisons Let's Grow Vouchers

Thank you to everyone who donated vouchers, we have received some fabulous new equipment, look out for the pictures on the Nursery noticeboard.

May we remind you...

Clothing

Please ensure that you send your child in appropriate clothing for this cold weather. Layers are ideal as we play outside whatever the weather. It is a requirement of the Early Years Foundation Stage for children to have free-flow access to the outdoors so our doors are always open. May we also remind you to name your child's belongings and send in a spare set of clothes for your child's peg as we have a very limited amount of spare clothes in the Nursery. Thank you to everybody who has responded to our recent plea for socks!

For the safety of your children...

Please do not allow your children to play, wait or block the stairway.

Take care on the stairs leading to the Nursery, they get extremely slippery when they are wet.

Texting

We operate a texting service in Nursery, please ensure we have an up-to-date mobile number on our records so you can receive our text messages.

Late Collection

We understand that there could be rare occasions when you may be late to collect your child due to circumstances beyond your control. However, it is our expectation that you will contact us to inform us of this or any alternative arrangements made. Unfortunately, late collection of children has a cost implication for the Nursery due to changing staffing levels for the different sessions and it is therefore necessary to charge parents/carers £5 for every fifteen minutes that the child remains in our care outside their session times.

Teatimes...

We would like to remind you that from the 23rd February 2015 the Nursery will no longer provide a meal at teatime for children attending the 3.30-5.30pm session. We ask that parents/carers provide a packed tea or snack for their child. In accordance with our lunchtime arrangements it will not be possible to heat food for child aged 3 years or above.

Multi-cultural week

During the last week of this half term we will be participating in a multi-cultural week with the school, the country we will be focusing on is **China**. If you have any Chinese pictures or artefacts that you are able to loan for the week we would be very grateful. Do label anything that you bring in and please don't bring anything too precious! The 3-4 year old children will have the opportunity to visit the 'big school' for storytelling sessions. We are also planning to do some Chinese cooking, writing and dancing.

Talkabout 2

As you will be aware our Nursery is engaging in the Talkabout 2 project which is supporting us in our work with children relating to their Communication and Language Development. Emma Waddingham is our Lead Professional for this project and we are working closely with Kate Ogden who is a Speech and Language Therapist. She has delivered some fantastic training in Practitioner-Child Interaction & Peer Coaching and Social Communication Difficulties and we are looking forward to her running workshops within the Nursery and delivering additional training in Speech Sounds and Signing. Please look out for handy tips and information on the Nursery noticeboard opposite our key groups display and feel free to talk to Emma if you would like further information.

Books

Sharing stories and information books is such an important part of every child's development.

'Story telling and reading activities can help develop language and literacy skills by supporting competence in communicating, speaking and listening, being read to and beginning to read and write.' (Bookstart).

We would like to encourage you to borrow books from the Nursery. As you may be aware, many of our books display a sticker asking you not to remove the books- please disregard this as it is not the attitude of our current team. After half term we will provide a selection of books for your child to choose from daily. We will be asking that you borrow one book at a time. You may wish to send your child with a named bookbag to enable the transportation of the books, you may have received a Bookstart book-bag if you have joined the library. You are also able to purchase a book-bag from the school office at a cost of £3.50.

Thank you

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you and your families for your support during all of our Christmas activities. Our children demonstrated fantastic self-confidence, standing up in front of such a large audience during our performances. We are planning to put on additional performances next Christmas to enable everyone to get a better view.

Dates for your Diary...

Friday 13th February- Last day of half term

Monday 23rd February- Nursery re-opens for term-time children

Thursday 5th March- World Book Day

Friday 13th March- Comic Relief- we will hold a cake sale. We would like to invite the children to wear fancy dress in exchange for an Easter Egg. The donated Easter Eggs will be used for an Easter raffle to raise funds for the school and Nursery.

And now for a few Thank Yous...

Many thanks to the governors and school staff who made our trip to St Martins Church possible.

A particular thank you must go to Erikas' mum and grandmother who brought in an amazing array of traditional Lithuanian Christmas foods which the children shared as a special snack in December. Please take time to look at the fabulous photographs displayed in the Nursery.

Also thanks must go to Flynn and Fallon's families who have made generous donations of toys this term, the children are really enjoying them.