



Newsletter

February 2018

The Railway Nursery is now 3 years old!! Happy Birthday to us! We are delighted to have been welcoming families into our nursery for the past 3 years and we had a big party at nursery to celebrate with exciting soft play activities and a huge Connect 4 game!

It has been a short but chilly month and we have been very busy both inside and outside of the nursery, making sure we have been wrapped up warm from head to toe when we have been learning outside. We have enjoyed lots of events at nursery too - pancake day, Valentines day with mystery cards being delivered and a craft session and tea party! The children and staff thoroughly embraced Chinese New Year activities for the Year of the Dog. World Book Day was a huge success with children and staff coming to nursery dressed as their favourite book character and lots of literacy related activities carried out across the nursery.



Our team

Congratulations to our staff member of the month for September - our fantastic manager Vikki! Each month the staff vote for the person who has impressed them the most, and they write lovely comments about each other. Some of the comments for Vikki include "She works tirelessly to look after her team and makes sure everyone has what they need to deliver

outstanding practice, what a superstar!” and “For being a great manager, very caring, understanding and a great listener.” Well done Vikki, a thoroughly deserved award!

The staff have continued ongoing professional development this month with Paul completing his paediatric First Aid award. This is a full 2 day course which all of our staff complete and renew every 3 years to ensure everyone is fully up to date with the correct first aid procedures. Vikki has attended ASQ3 training which is the process that Health Visitors follow when they complete 9 month and 2 year checks for children. Please let us know when your child is attending their 9 month and 2 year checks so we can record this at nursery and share the results so the we can help to develop your child’s learning further. Vikki and Terri both attended Stockport Managers conferences to gain and share knowledge from Stockport’s Early Years advisors and liaise with other settings in our area. Georgia and Niamh also attended Safeguarding training this month.

We are delighted to announce that we have applied to be an Associate Partner Nursery within the Stockport area as we fulfil the criteria to share our outstanding practice with other settings and help them develop their own settings in terms of procedures, teaching and learning and the learning environment. This will involve other nursery managers and practitioners coming to visit us so that we can help advise them accordingly and show off our fantastic nursery!

Babies - News from the baby room

This month babies have celebrated Valentine’s Day with a tea party and crafts, we were delighted to be able to share this with some of their parents too. They enjoyed lots of hand and foot print painting and painting using different tools this month too. We were lucky enough to have lots of lovely fresh snow in our garden for the babies to explore and we even brought some inside to explore in the sensory tray with the spades! We have also been busy preparing some lovely Mother’s Day crafts ready to take home in March to spoil our lovely Mummies.

Sarah, Niamh and Nina :)

Toddlers - News from the toddler room

The toddlers fully embraced Chinese New Year activities and they loved making their own dog creations from paper plates. They Valentine’s Day cards were well received by our lovely parents and Valentine’s Day pictures too. The toddlers have also been busy exploring paint - making marks in

paint using cars, bricks and painting self-portraits too, aren't they clever? The toddlers have been introduced to lots of new vocabulary as they have experienced different weather this month - rain, snow, freezing temperatures (icicles in the garden) and dark afternoons. The cakes made by the toddlers were delicious and enjoyed by all. In March the toddlers have requested a trip to Stockport Fire Station so we are awaiting their reply to our request - we will keep you posted. We are all looking forward to an exciting month ahead.

Debi, Tasha and Jeny

Pre-School - News from the pre-school room

Pre-School have been busy this month discussing different celebrations - Chinese New Year, Shrove Tuesday and Valentine's Day. They loved discussing everyone's different outfits and characters for World Book Day and we read lots of different stories to celebrate this too. We learnt lots of new vocabulary to describe the texture of the snow which covered our garden and the children were fascinated by the icicles hanging from their outdoor staircase and the slide. We also talked about the importance of staying warm in the cold weather and all of the children were great at dressing themselves independently for outdoor play. Our next topic is all about The World around us and we will be looking at our natural environment - hunting for bugs, using our senses, printing with natural objects to name just a few of our planned activities!

Terri, Ceri, Julie and Georgia.

Mealtimes

We are proud to be supporting our local village and use Unwins to supply all of our fresh fruit and vegetables and H G Beard Butchers to supply all of our meat. They even make us special nursery low salt sausages! All of our food is freshly made from scratch onsite including all of our soups, quiches, fishcakes, lamb burgers, garlic bread and low sugar cakes and bakes. The only foods we buy from the supermarket are dry goods like cereals, rice and pasta. Our lovely chef Sarah is always happy to discuss recipe suggestions and our menus are currently on a 5 week rotation to ensure children get a varied diet and are able to experience a wide variety of foods at nursery. Children have 3 meals during their day here - breakfast (served from 8.00 - 9.15), lunch (served at 11.30) and tea (served at 3.30). Tea is a light meal, such as soup, garlic bread and salad, pasta salad, jacket potato etc, so children will need another small meal or snack before bedtime. Our menus are always displayed on the board in the hall for everyone's convenience.

When children reach our pre-school room, our mealtimes involve lots of self-service where children develop independence skills and carry their plates to the table, help distribute cutlery to their peers, scrape their plates into a dish, stack plates and help themselves to food where possible. This is something you may also want to encourage children to take part in at home to help develop these skills. We also use open beakers in pre-school for drinks at mealtimes which again helps to develop their skills (and yes, we do have lots of spillages but this is the only way to learn!) I hope this information is useful for you all, please let us know if you have any further questions about mealtimes.

Dates for your diary:

Monday 12th March - Mothers Day Breakfast, starts at 8:30am (please only Mothers that have children attending today)

Friday 16th March - St.Patricks Day celebrations, please come to nursery dressed in green

Monday 19th March - Nursery will be making cakes to sell to parents today, raising money for Sport Relief

Tuesday 20th March - Crazy hair day for Sports Relief

Thursday 22nd March - GO, GO DISCO, your child will be taking part in a number of dancing/disco sessions today

Friday 23rd March - Fancy dress for Sport Relief (we will have a red box for parents to post any donations throughout the week, located in reception area)

Monday 26th March - 10-11am, toddlers stay and play session (please only children that attend today)

Monday 26th March - 2:30-3:30pm, pre school stay and play session (please only children that attend today)

Tuesday 27th March - 2:30-3:30pm, baby room stay and play session (please only children that attend today)

Wednesday 28th March - 10-11am, Easter Crafts sessions, parents or grandparents welcome to come along and join in with arts and crafts (please only children that attend today)

Thursday 29th March - Easter Bonnet parade, we would love for you to create a master piece at home with your child to show off today, PRIZES for best bonnet in each room

This is a busy month and we have lots of different events on to give parents plenty of opportunities to come into nursery so please do not feel that you need to attend all of these events, we just have them at different times to accommodate as many parents as possible as we understand how busy you all are.

Please could we ask you to.....

Warm clothing

As you all know we play in our lovely garden every day, whatever the weather so please can we ask for you to ensure all children have wellies and **waterproof** coats as the weather can be unpredictable and children love splashing in our puddles! Thanks for your co-operation with this. Even though it's spring it is still pretty chilly so children also need hats and gloves to keep them lovely and warm during their outdoor adventures. Please label these with your child's name to avoid confusion.

Spare Clothes

Please can we ask parents to pack a bag with at least 2 changes of clothes (including underwear and **socks**) as the children often get very messy during activities at nursery and need to have a full change of outfit!

Car Parking

Please can we ask parents to use the car park for dropping children off or picking them up at the end of the day whenever possible? We have been asked by the council to ensure that parents are using the car park rather than the road when there are spaces available within the car park so we would appreciate your co-operation with this. It also helps to keep our neighbours happy! Thank you.

Any questions or anything we can help you with please feel free to speak to a member of our team or you can send us an email to enquiries@therailwaynursery.co.uk.

The Railway Nursery Team