



# Newsletter

## July 2016

We are well and truly into our summer months now, the weather is warm but there are still lots of clouds and rain, so please do keep bringing in a variety of spare clothes as we are unsure how the day will end up. Wellies seem to be a favourite in the toddler room at the moment, we've got lots of puddles to splash in when we explore the garden.



## Our team

Big well done to Niamh, who was voted 'staff member of the month' this month. As you will know, Niamh is our apprentice here at The Railway Nursery and she has recently completed her Level 2 Childcare Qualification at Cheadle College. Here are some of her lovely comments from her team, 'Niamh is great to work with and has progressed lots over the last few months', 'Niamh is great in all rooms and works really hard', 'Niamh is really fun to be around.' Well done Niamh, keep up your hard work! Our staff team have been very busy this month developing their knowledge and understanding, receiving lots of different training. All staff have received Food Hygiene Training, this was completed internally with Michelle. This training included Personal Hygiene when being in the kitchen and handling food, for example washing hands when entering the kitchen before we start any task. Also what we do when preparing foods, which colour chopping boards to use and how to check foods and where different foods like meat, dairy, fruit and vegetables are stored. Michelle also informed the staff about how we check cooked foods and what we do

when we have to save food if a child is asleep. We have a procedure to keep the food at a safe temperature and then how we heat the food when the child wakes up again. Then a very important part of the training was discussing allergens, staff are aware of all children's allergens as these are kept on each room's registers, the senior team update the document when needed and all staff are informed of any changes.

Well done to Jeny who has recently completed her Paediatric First Aid with Millie's Trust. Jeny was very excited when her certificate arrived, and so were we!

## Leading Parent Partnership Award (LPPA)

As you may have noticed, we have some lovely new signs at nursery! Ceri has worked hard with our LPPA team to design these signs and we've had lots of comments from parents to say how fabulous they look.

We also have a new buggy storage shed, please feel free to use this space for your pushchairs and car seats, thank you to those parents already making use of this. We hope you are finding it as useful as we are. All we ask from you is to collapse the pushchair before leaving it in the storage space, this helps give room for other parents using the space.

## Parent Social Events

Thank you to all those parents that joined us for food and drink at Chilli Banana, it was an evening enjoyed by all and we will look into planning something similar in the future.

One of our parents did mention that it is tricky to get both Mum and Dad out together on a social night, so suggested a Dad's night or a Mum's night out.

Both Mum's and Dad's nights have gone ahead and were enjoyed by all, Dad's had a mini pub crawl around Bramhall, and the Mum's enjoyed a Tapas night at Ego in Bramhall. Thank you to all the lovely Mum's and Dad's for joining us on all of these nights out, we hope you agree with us that these are a good way to get out and socialise and make new friends, just like your children are doing at nursery!

## HatWorks Museum

The Toddler and Pre School children enjoyed a very successful trip to The Hatworks museum in Stockport. Thank you to Terri for being 'team leader'

on this trip. Terri has had experience visiting The Hatworks with her old nursery setting, so she was the perfect person for the job.

All the children really enjoyed exploring the museum and they were able to try on lots of different hats. The photos are brilliant, trying the biker helmet on looked like it was the favourite.

Whilst on the trip the children had a picnic and were well behaved throughout the whole trip, we are all very proud of our Railway family!

## Big Bramhall Tea Party

If you are on Facebook, you may follow the 'I Love Bramhall' page. There are always lots of updates about what is going on, in and around Bramhall. This month there was a Big Bramhall Tea Party for all the senior citizens of Bramhall. Wendy is in charge of the 'I Love Bramhall' page and she works very hard to help businesses like ours make relationships with each other. Lots of Bramhall businesses donated cakes, resources and their time to help make this Tea Party a success.

Ceri and our pre-school children made lots of cakes for the Tea Party, and we hope they were enjoyed by all. Go Ceri and Team Pre-School.

## Dental Visit

Ann Jepson is a Stockport NHS Dental Nurse. Ann visits early years settings and schools around Stockport to promote healthy eating and teeth cleaning. The toddler and pre school children really enjoyed the visit from Ann, they listened to all the information and then they had fun cleaning sets of plastic toy teeth using toothbrushes.

The toddler and pre school children really enjoy the 'brush bus' at nursery and like to independently brush their teeth. Having this visit from Ann has helped us reinforce how important it is to look after our teeth. Thank you Ann for visiting!

## Parent Questionnaire

Our nursery setting is always trying to find ways on how we can improve ourselves. We ask for your help by completing 'parent questionnaires', this gives us feedback on what we are doing well and what we can improve on as a nursery. The parent questionnaires are sometimes sent to you in paper copy. This month we have emailed the parent questionnaires to everybody

in hope that we get lots of responses. Please do check you emails and any feedback we get is much appreciated.

## Update on planning permission.

As you know, we emailed all parents a few weeks ago regarding your travel and parking habits to and from nursery, this was linked to a proposed extension and planning permission for our pre-school room. Thank you to all the parents who replied, we are currently collating all responses and will keep all parents informed as we progress.

## Our Garden

As you may have seen, our garden has had a little make over. The grass was looking tired and very worn out, we now have 'easi-grass' which looks just lovely! Our mud kitchen area looks more defined now and has had a tidy up as well, the children absolutely love exploring the garden.

You may of noticed our front garden is/was having a mini make over also. We have had landscapers working with Michelle to make the entrance area of our nursery look much more welcoming. We hope you agree with us that it looks much better.

## Holiday Photos/Fun Weekends Away

Thank you to all those parents sending in some amazing holiday and weekend adventure snaps! It has been lovely to see all the adventures you've been getting up to. The photos that have been sent in are now displayed in each child's room and all the children love seeing what each other have been up to. This is definitely helping the children develop their Personal, Social and Emotional skills whilst at nursery.

If you have any holidays or fun weekends planned i the future do please feel free to keep sending the photos to us on our email address, [enquiries@therailwaynursery.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@therailwaynursery.co.uk)

### Busy Babies - News from the baby room

The babies have been exploring lots of singing, dancing, making music and reading stories this month to promote their communication and language. A lot of our babies at



the moment are really enjoying showing off their dancing, and we love it too. All the staff and babies have a good dance together whilst listening to music from the iPad, the Mexican album is a favourite!

Throughout the month of August we will focus on developing our 'Understanding the World' by exploring our animals. We will be looking at different animals and encouraging the babies to say the names of the animal and copy the animal sounds. The babies will also be taking part in a trip to Bramhall Park to feed the ducks, we will see if we can spot any other animals whilst on our walk around the park.

Sarah, Karen and Vikki :)

### Toddlers - News from the toddler room

The Toddler children have been very busy this month learning lots about 'Space' activities. The children have enjoyed making their own paper plate planets and designed their very own night sky, they have also explored paper mache which was lots of messy fun!



The Toddler children ventured out to the Library and have chosen which books they would like to look at, most of these being space books!

In the month of August the Toddler children will be exploring 'insects'. There was a dragonfly buzzing around the garden earlier this month, so hopefully when the Toddler children go on a bug hunt they will be able to find some more animals and learn about how they live. Finding out more about insects will help the children to develop their Understanding of the World and also support their Communication and Language as we talk about what we can see.

Dominique, Debi, Charlotte, and Jeny

### Pre-School - News from the pre-school room

The pre school children have taken a great interest in insects, so throughout the month of July they have been on bug hunts, played bug bingo and also had a visit to the library to borrow books about insects and learn even more facts about bugs and insects. Pre School went on a bug hunt in the garden the children found spiders, snails and we've even had a dragonfly buzzing around the garden for one of the weeks in July!

Throughout August the children will be exploring transport. Terri has planned a number of fun activities for the children to develop their mathematic skills, including counting cars as they drive past the nursery (risk assessments have been completed).

Pre School are saying a fond farewell to a number of their children this month. We will be celebrating by having a pre school graduation at the end of August for those leaving us to go to school. We hope all the children leaving us to go to school enjoy their next big adventure in life, we will definitely miss you all.

Terri, Ceri and Niamh

### **Dates for your diary:**

Wednesday 10th August - Parents Evening, come along between 6:30-8pm and speak with your child's key person about their learning and development. We will be offering cheese and wine on this night, this is always a lovely evening and parents get to meet each other too.

Thursday 11th August - Nursery Beach Party, come to nursery in beach wear and all children can join in the fun activities

Tuesday 23rd August - Babies trip to Bramhall Park, the babies and baby staff will be taking a stroll down to Bramhall Park to feed the ducks. This will link in with the babies 'animal' theme for August.

Wednesday 24th August - Pre School Graduation (2:30-4:30pm) more details to follow

Monday 29th August - Summer Bank Holiday, please note nursery is closed today

Monday 5th September - Road Safety Awareness Week

Tuesday 13th September - Eid-al-Adha is an Islamic festival to remember Ibrahim's willingness to sacrifice his son to God. The children will be tasting different foods to celebrate.

Wednesday 14th September - Photo Day at nursery. A professional photographer will be coming to visit the nursery to take photographs of your child. If you have an outfit you would like your child to be in for their photo then please bring this in your child's bag and we can change them for their photo shoot.

**Please could we ask you to.....**

**Healthy Diet, Happy Me**

Please can we ask parents to support us in healthy eating inside and outside of nursery. Feel free to help yourself to our fruit bowl in the reception area and talk to your children about why it is important to eat a healthy balanced diet. Please can we also ask parents/carers to refrain from bringing in food items from home.

### **Label your child's clothes**

Could all parents label your child's clothes, as we are getting busier in the nursery we want to ensure that clothes don't get mixed up and you go home with the right outfits. Can we also remind parents to provide spare clothing for your child/ren, we can have messy days at nursery which require additional changes of clothes. We do have nursery spares clothing in case of emergency but these are limited items.

### **Nursery opening Times**

As you are all aware our nursery opening hours are 8am-6pm. We understand that parents may get to nursery a little earlier than this due to no traffic being on the road, or maybe you've just had a super organised morning! Please can we remind you that we can only let you into the nursery at 8am. You may see staff in the nursery before this time, they are working hard to set the rooms up for the day and will also be preparing breakfast for your child's arrival.

### **Plastic Bags**

Most of our parents already provide a bag for their child's spare clothes, but please can we remind parents to use back packs or canvas bags to store their child's belongings at nursery. Plastic bags are a choking hazard for children/babies and are a danger to have in the nursery.

### **Calpol/Liquid Paracetamol**

Please can we ask parents to provide calpol for your child if you sign it in on a medication form? The nursery can provide calpol in emergency situations if your child suddenly has a high temperature during their time at nursery. We will always contact you before administering emergency medication for consent.

### **Car Park Safety**

Please can we ask parents to be extra vigilant when using the car park and getting your child in and out of the car. We promote 'staying safe' whilst at nursery and would like the children to learn about safety and how we keep themselves safe. There can be moving vehicles at busy times, especially during drop offs in the morning and pick ups in the evening. Please can we ask you to hold your child's hand when getting in and out of the car and coming into the nursery?

## **Use Learning Journals**

We would like to remind all parents that you can check your child's progress by logging onto 'Learning Journals' at any time. If you would like to speak to your child's key person about their development you are welcome to at any point. All parents should now have received an email from 'learning journals'. If you do not yet have a username or password, or have any questions or queries about the online 'learning journals' package please do not hesitate to speak to a member of staff.

## **Pushchairs**

Some parents walk into nursery with their child in a pushchair. We can then store the pushchair here at nursery for the day and you collect it when you pick your child up at the end of the day. Please can we ask these parents to collapse their pushchair in the morning when they leave, this makes it easier for us to store them away. Thank you.

## **Evacuate during Fire Alarm Tests**

We will be testing the fire alarms every Monday, if you hear the alarm please can we ask that you evacuate to the back garden. 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](mailto:enquiries@therailwaynursery.co.uk).

The Railway Nursery Team