



Newsletter

March 2016

Can you believe we are at the end of March already? This year is going very quickly and we are enjoying lots of different activities in all of the different rooms. We have welcomed some more children and their families this month and are striving to make sure everybody's experience with us here at The Railway Nursery is the very best.

Our team

We would like to welcome Charlotte to our staff team. Charlotte is Level 3 qualified and is working as a relief member of staff for us. Charlotte has settled in nicely and is getting to know the different routines in all of our room. A relief member of staff is a member of staff who is available to work all hours and able to cover staff training days, staff sickness and staff holidays. Charlotte has been a massive help since she started with us this month. Thank you Charlotte.

Charlotte has received the accolade of 'Staff Member of the Month' this month. Here are some of the comment from our staff team;

"Charlotte has settled in so well and sticks with the routine perfectly!"

"Charlotte has settled into the team so well and bonded with all of the children"



A note from Vikki

As some of you may be aware I have been a little poorly during the month of March. I was diagnosed with Cervical Cancer in January, but I have felt completely normal and have happily continued working. Being at work has been a great distraction for me and I love being with the children.

I had surgery on Monday 21st March at The Christie hospital, and was discharged Thursday 24th March. The first few days were a struggle, but as I write this (1st April) I am feeling lots better. Today is the first day I do not need any pain relief, yay!

I wanted to send a quick message to you all and thank you for your well wishes, cards, gifts, flowers and chocolates. I am feeling the love! I've even been told a few candles have been lit for me in various churches, this means a lot to me and I believe everybody's

positive vibes have helped me get that little bit stronger each day!

I shall keep popping into work during my recovery period to say hello. I cannot wait to be back in the nursery full time!

Easter

We hope you all had a great Easter and enjoyed the Bank Holiday weekend. The children enjoyed lots of different Easter crafts at nursery and also a visit from Bugs Bunny (a life sized helium balloon which they had lots of fun with until he happily floated away to go and make preparations for next Easter!)

We had in our diary a farm visit booked for the Spring time to support the children's learning but having researched the logistics of this event, it hasn't been possible for us to find a farm which is easily accessible on public transport from the nursery. The other option would be to take the children to a farm on a minibus but having risk assessed this, Paul and I don't want to take the extra risk of taking the children in a private vehicle when there is so much to explore in our local community. If you think of any further ideas of local trips that the children would benefit from, please let us know.

LPPA

We are currently working towards an award called the Leading Parent Partnership Award. Research in recent

years has shown that the engagement of parents is vital to the education of children and young people. We feel that our partnerships with parents are already very strong but engaging in this award is helping to develop this even further and ensure that our engagement with parents is as effective as it can possibly be in order to achieve the best possible outcomes for our children. We are working towards achieving 10 objectives which demonstrate the different ways we involve parents in their child's experiences at nursery and we are hoping to achieve the award early next year - watch this space! If you would like any further information on the LPPA please let us know.

Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers

We are still collecting the Sainsbury's Active Kid Vouchers. There is a box in the reception area to post your vouchers. Thank you to those parents and children that have already deposited some vouchers!

We will continue to collect these vouchers until July and then we will be able to tally them up and purchase some additional outdoor play equipment.

Thank you to those families that have deposited vouchers already.

Busy Babies - News from the baby room

During March our babies have been getting very messy exploring different environments! They have enjoyed group activities, water play and full body painting. This month we

have also been exploring the big garden, finding new toys and playing on the big slide! We also loved taking the children to feed the ducks at Bramhall Park. Our theme for April is Pirates and Princesses. We will be making our very own pirate ship and also our own pirate/princess puppets. This month we are also going on a treasure hunt around the nursery and will be dressing up lots too.

Sarah and Karen.



Toddlers - News from the toddler room

In March we learnt all about spring. We looked at animals, made farms, planted flowers in the garden and played in compost. The toddlers really enjoyed learning all about spring and we had lots of fun in the process!

During April our new topic is 'All about me' which is very exciting! We will be drawing self portraits, explore mirrors in different ways and talk about emotions, supporting this with some action songs about our bodies.

Rosie and Dominique

Pre-School - News from the pre-school room

We have been enjoying our new topic 'all about Superheroes.' We have covered all 7 areas of learning linked to superheroes and having lots of fun each day. Pre-school have made superhero comics, biscuits and boats, to name just a few of our activities within this topic. We have also enjoyed lots of outdoor activities - exploring the rain, jumping in puddles and rolling in the mud - all very messy but such amazing learning opportunities! Next month we will be focusing on our new topic 'Healthy body, happy me!' Pre-school will take part in lots of different activities to promote healthy living and self-care routines. We will be attending trips to the local fruit shop and also the dentist. We are also planning to take part in a sponsored walk around Bramhall and creating our own posters to tell everyone all about it!

Terri, Ceri and Niamh

Pre-school council

During our pre-school council meeting the children were very chatty and forthcoming with ideas, including requesting some more Superhero toys which we introduced last week and also asking for some more knights for our castle which have just arrived too. They asked to make a Superhero Den which was no problem at all for expert den builders Terri and Ceri! We are also planning on taking a trip to the park on the bus as requested by the

children. Food suggestions from the children included macaroni cheese, butter on crackers instead of cheese spread and a pasta and cheese dish with bacon! Leanne is working on all of these suggestions!

Dates for your diary:

w/c 18th April - Healthy Body, Happy Mind Week

Tuesday 19th April - Pre School will be having a visit from a local Optician Friday 22nd April - Saint Georges Day tea party

Please could we ask you to.....

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.

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.

The Railway Nursery Team