



# Newsletter

## October 2016

October has been a busy month settling new children into the nursery, we are welcoming a number of new babies. The staff are really enjoying lot of baby cuddles.

We are now slowly in the roll down to Christmas, and we will be keeping you updated with a number of very exciting events coming up. These events will be posted on the Newsletters and also will be sent via email, so please keep checking and if you have any questions then please let one of the management team know.



## Our team

Congratulations to the staff member of the month, Sarah Massey. Sarah joined The Railway team in September as our nursery Chef and has settled in amazingly! We love her food and she is always so happy. Well done Staff have also been attending training outside of nursery this month. Karen has updated her Paediatric First Aid by completing a Millie's Trust First Aid course. Karen's certificates arrived the end of this month, well done Karen. Sarah Griffiths has attended Safeguarding training to refresh her knowledge. We pride ourselves on continuously helping our staff learn and develop. We are very lucky to have a number of courses locally for our staff to attend.

# Safeguarding/Child Protection Policy Update

Our policy has been updated by Michelle. Michelle reviews our policies on a monthly basis and updates any policies that need updating. Our Safeguarding policy is now referred to as the 'Child Protection Policy' this is to bring it inline with EYFS statutory framework. The policy has been emailed to all parents for you to read. If you would like further information then please do not hesitate to get in touch. You can also find further information from the local Stockport safeguarding website [safeguarding@stockport.gov](mailto:safeguarding@stockport.gov)

## Mealtimes at Nursery

Recently we sent an email to all parents to let them know that we were trailing a change of meal times at nursery. Breakfast has been unchanged and is still served between 8am and 9am. Morning snack has been changed to a drink of milk at 10:30. Lunch has been brought forwards and is now served at 11:30am. We feel this is working really well and children are eating better at nursery, removing morning snack has helped the children to eat much better at lunch time. Children are less tired and enjoy their lunch, then are ready for a sleep at midday. Afternoon tea continues to be served at 3:30pm. We have received good feedback from our staff and from our parents about the change in meal times.

Please note, if any children need additional snacks during the day we will offer these, for example if breakfast has not been eaten by a number of children, then a snack will be offered at around 10am.

## Parent Social Events

The Dad's of the nursery had a social night at the beginning of this month. A few quite drinks in Bramhall and quite a few Dad's turned up. It is lovely to see the friendships you are all making outside of the nursery!

Ceri will be planning another Mum's night out, but this is likely to take place in the new year. We understand how busy everybody gets on the lead up to christmas, so will definitely plan more social nights in the new year.

## Outdoor Clothing

As autumn is in full swing, the weather has become quite wet and cold. Please can we ask parents to provide appropriate clothing for their children e.g warm coat, wellies, hats and scarves. Nursery provide what we call 'wet pants' for the younger children who may be crawling around the garden to explore.

Any children that do get wet in the garden will be changed as needed.

Please can we also ask for parents to provide a bag with a couple of sets of spare clothing.

## Breast Cancer Awareness Month

As some of you may know, October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, at nursery we had a day where we invited all staff and children to dress in 'pink' to help raise awareness. The children also decorated pink pictures and we collected donations for Cancer Research. Thank you to everybody that supported this month and wore 'pink' to nursery to help raise awareness and donated monies. We managed to raise £15.23, every penny counts! Thank you again for your support.

## Professional Nursery Photos

The professional photographs which were ordered by parents have been returned to nursery, and they look amazing! If you haven't already picked up your photos then please speak to one of the management team and they will pass your photos onto you.

## Butterflies

The children have enjoyed watching our caterpillars grow and turn into cocoons. Our butterflies hatched mid October and the children loved watching how they moved around the butterfly enclosure. We gave the butterflies fresh fruits to eat and often found when we looked at them, at least one of them were having a taste of the juicy oranges.

The toddlers really enjoyed watching the butterflies move their wings as Karen helped take them out of the enclosure and fly away to their new homes. A beautiful butterfly display has been in the toddler room the past couple of months, and all the children have enjoyed learning about the life cycle from caterpillar to butterfly.

If you would like to help your child learn about the life cycle or caterpillar to butterfly then you could read the story 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' all the children love this book at nursery.

## Food from Home

Here at nursery we work very hard to make our nursery menu's just right. We use the NDNA 'Healthy Body, Happy Me' campaign and 'Change4life' to make sure our menu's have a good variety of foods and are well balanced with fresh fruits and vegetables, fish and meats each week.

Please can we ask that parents do not bring in foods from home. We understand that your child may have a snack in the car on their way into nursery. Please can these snacks be left in the car or disposed of. We are more than happy to provide breakfast or a snack when your child arrives to nursery. Children are always encouraged to help themselves to the fruit bowl in the reception area on arrival to nursery or when going home.

### Babies - News from the baby room

Babies have been very busy this month exploring lots of messy activities. We have explored hand print painting, foot print painting, painting using tools, painting using our hands, using bingo pens to make Diwali pictures, making our own Happy Halloween bunting, gel play and jelly play! Lots of lovely activities and lots of lovely art work displayed all around the room.



We have been doing lots of settling in sessions with new babies starting nursery, so the baby room has been very busy!

In November the babies will be focusing on one of the areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). We are going to be helping children to feel secure in Personal, Social and Emotional Development. This will help with all of our new children starting with us. We will be doing lots of small group activities to help the babies make relationships with others at nursery, building their confidence playing in groups. Lots of photographs will be taken and shared on the online Learning Journals, if you need help with your login then please speak to either Michelle or Vikki and they will be able to assist you.

Sarah, Niamh and Vikki :)

## Toddlers - News from the toddler room



In the month of October the children have been watching their cocoons hatch into Butterflies! The children were very intrigued watching the butterflies movements and enjoyed watching them as they were released in the garden.

The toddlers have been exploring Autumn throughout the month of October, they have collected leaves in the garden to make Autumn collages, leaf rubbings have also been made using the crayons. Toddlers have enjoyed yoga sessions every Tuesday morning and our lovely yoga lady, Zoe, has told us a story about Autumn and encouraged all the children to copy her movements.

In November the children will be exploring our senses - sight, smell, taste, touch and sound. We will be talking about bonfire night and listening to the sounds the fireworks make using our iPads. The children will be tasting and smelling different fruits which we will get from the local greengrocers in Bramhall. A sound walk will take place in and around the nursery, and we will be making different treasure baskets to explore and filling our messy exploration tray with lots of different materials including lentils, water, coloured sand and gloop!

Debi, Karen and Jeny

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

This month the children have been exploring Peter Rabbit. The children have been developing their scissor skills making rabbit masks and cutting Peter Rabbit pictures to make collages. Pre School have also had a very special visit from one of Peter Rabbits friends (Dominique's pet bunny rabbit). The children enjoyed asking questions about the rabbit and talked all day about the rabbit named 'Stitch'.

Ceri has also been delivering some super Phonics sessions with 'Phoebe Phonics' our phonics puppet. Ceri has been focussing on different letter sounds and encouraging the children to sound out the letter and make the shape of the letter in different materials. The children have used their hands to make the letter marks in shaving foam, used paint to make the letter marks. This is to help with fine motor skills.

In the month of November the children will be exploring all things Autumn. The garden will help as we watch the changes in the environment around us. The children have already collected leaves on the garden to make Autumn collages. Please can we ask for parents to bring appropriate clothing for exploring the garden, hat, scarf, winter coat and wellies.

Terri, Ceri and Dominique

## Dates for your diary:

Monday 31st October - Halloween Party! Each room will be hosting their very own Halloween party 3-4pm. If your child does not attend on this day then please feel free to come along and join in with the activities.

Friday 4th November - Bonfire celebrations will be taking place this afternoon. The children will get to toast marshmallows on the fire (don't worry this activity has been risk assessed) The children loved this activity last year and we hope they enjoy this just as much this year. We will also be making decorative bonfire pictures using a variety of materials.

Friday 11th November - Remembrance Day, please come to nursery dressed in red to remember all the fallen soldiers. The children will be making 'Poppy pictures' using paints and glitter!

Week Commencing 14th November - Children In Need Week. A variety of activities will be going on this week, from crazy hair day, cake sales and sponsored walks. Please see posters around the nursery for more information.

Thursday 24th November - Thanksgiving Dinner, an American celebration. This originated as a harvest festival. The children will decorate flags to celebrate and enjoy a Thanksgiving dinner. Please can we ask for harvest festival donations which we will be passing onto The WellSpring Shelter in Stockport.

Wednesday 30th November - St. Andrews Day, patron saint of Scotland. The children will decorate pictures and taste some Scottish cuisine.

Wednesday 14th December - Babies Christmas Sing Along (3-3:30pm) Come along and join in making music and singing along to Christmas songs

Thursday 15th December - Pre School trip to the Pantomime, a very exciting trip indeed! Nursery has already booked and paid for tickets and sought parents permission for children to attend this trip.

Friday 16th December - Toddlers Christmas Production (3-3:30pm) Come along and enjoy the Toddlers Nativity Performance

Monday 19th December - Pre School Christmas Production (3-3:30pm) Come along and enjoy the 12 Days of Christmas Performance by the Pre School Children

Wednesday 21st December - Christmas Party and Father Christmas Visit  
(2-4pm)

Friday 23rd December - Christmas Jumper Day!

Please could we ask you to.....

### **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 in 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)

Please do keep sending your photos into us, we love hearing about what you have been up 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