



# Newsletter

February 2016

Welcome to our second newsletter of the year. It has been another very busy month for us here at The Railway Nursery. We would like to welcome all the new families and their children to our nursery. We hope you enjoy reading our newsletters, just as much as we enjoy writing them to you!



## Our team

Welcome Sarah and Karen to the team, they are both now settled into their roles here with us and have some great ideas which they have shared with the team.

Sarah has received the accolade of 'Staff Member of the Month' this month, Sarah has been working very hard to get to know the children and their individual routines. She is a great asset to our fantastic team!

Our staff continuously strive to better their knowledge and understanding, we help our staff by attending regular training course. Rosie has recently completed 'Makaton Training stages 1-4'. Well done Rosie, she has been using this training to help promote communication and language with the Toddler children, and has been sharing her signs with the rest of the team.

## Sainsbury Active Kids Vouchers

As some of you may be aware, we are collecting the Sainsbury 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.

## Ofsted Self Evaluation Form (SEF)

When Ofsted come to visit our nursery, they will take a look at our SEF to see what our nursery is like before they come to visit. Michelle updates our SEF every few months with views, opinions and ideas from a variety of sources.

You as parents are one of the sources we get feedback from and we input this into our SEF. We also ask our staff team for feedback about how they feel we are strong as a setting and what areas of improvement we could focus on. All the feedback questionnaires are then used to update our SEF. So we would like to thank all parents that have filled in questionnaires recently, we value your feedback.

Our SEF is available for you to read and is displayed in the reception area. it is an easy read document which gives you an idea of what nursery life is like here at The Railway Nursery and what we are doing to continuously try and improve our setting.

### Busy Babies - News from the baby room

February has been a busy month in babies, we have welcomed Johnny to our team of babies and have been helping to settle some of our older children ready to move to the Toddler room.

The babies have done lots of group activities this month, the favourite thing to do is explore the home corner and tea set. We have been having lots of



'tea parties' passing toys to each other and role modelling how we use can pour tea, mix the foods in the pan and eat and drink.

This month we will be exploring 'Spring'. We will plan a few trips out to the park and point out the changes in our environment to the babies, hopefully we will be able to find some pretty flowers blooming!

Vikki, Nina and Sarah



### Toddlers - News from the toddler room

February has been filled with lots of fun in Toddlers, exploring our Small World theme. We have enjoyed creating a fish tank with paint, glue in a sturdy cardboard box. We've had a Chinese tea party, which was followed by talking about Chinese New Year. We've created our own shop, and we've been on a couple of trips to Sainsbury's and also to Bramhall train station to watch the trains go by.

With March fast approaching, our theme is set to change to 'Spring'. We will explore farm animals and look at the difference between the babies and the fully grown animals. We will be planting some spring time flowers in our garden and observe the changes as they start to grow. The toddlers are planning a trip to Bramhall park this month, so hopefully we will be able to spot some changes in the environment during our visit.

We would also like to add a warm welcome to the new children Oliver, Rory and Dexter, and bid a fond farewell to Arshida, Tara and Cameron who are now settled into our pre school room.

Rosie, Dominique and Karen

### Pre-school council

Terri held the Pre School Council this month and spoke to the children about what they like to do here at nursery. She talked to the children about trips out that they would like to do, foods they would like to eat at nursery and toys they would like to explore more of at nursery.

The pre school children spoke last month about how they would like to see fish and chips on the menu, so what better excuse to take a trip to our local fish and chip shop in Bramhall. The children went along with Niamh, Terri and Paul for their lunch and enjoyed a fish and chips dinner.

We asked all the children what kinds of foods they would enjoy at nursery. Some of the suggestions were, cake and custard, sausage beans on toast, prawns and more banana! So we will be inviting our chef Leanne into the pre school room so she can talk about these foods with the children and taste some of these different foods.

When Terri mentioned about trips out to the children, they suggested we have more trips to the slide park and to the train station. So in March we will be looking at venturing our more into Bramhall village to explore. There are lots of new 'Spring' sites for the children to see which we can point out on our walks.

Along with taking trips out of nursery, the children mentioned they would like to explore the train station some more. So we will be taking walks to the train station to watch the trains go by. We can also take short trips to local villages (permission from parents/carers will be sought before we do this).

This month the pre school children have also commented that they like spending time at nursery, especially in the outdoor garden area. They said they are happy with all the toys and the favourite thing to play is 'shop'. The children did say they would like more trains at nursery, but i think that is because we have a very big box of train track and lots of trains, so we think this is another enjoyable activity to explore with the children.

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

Every Thursday - Yoga

Wednesday 2nd March - Makaton workshop 5-6pm (creche available)

Thursday 3rd March - World Book Day, bring your child to nursery dressed as their favourite character. We will be visiting the library at 11am. If any other parents and children would like to join us if you do not attend this day you are more than welcome to.

Monday 7th March - Mothers day breakfast 8:30-9:30  
- Mothers day crafts and tea 3-4pm

Thursday 17th March - St.Patrick's day, come to nursery dressed in green and your child will explore a variety of crafts throughout the day

Friday 18th March - Sport Relief, all children will be joining in with a variety of activities to promote fitness and raise money for this brilliant charity.

Week Commencing 21st March - All children will be partaking in a variety of arts and craft activities this week to celebrate Easter.

## Parent Help

Big thank you to Michelle Hydes (Cameron's mummy), for coming into nursery and reading to the pre school children. The children absolutely loved having you here and were very excited all day! Michelle was greeted by a cuddle from each child and were eager to show off their pre school room.

If any other parents would like to arrange to come into nursery and join in an activity please do let us know. This could be reading a story to the children, painting with them or exploring the outdoor area playing a game.

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, thanks! 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](mailto:enquiries@therailwaynursery.co.uk).

The Railway Nursery Team