



Newsletter

February 2017

We have come to the end of another action packed month at the nursery and have enjoyed celebrating Valentines Day throughout the nursery with various craft activities and and of course a delicious tea party (thanks to chef Sarah!) Pancake Day was a big success too with lots of pancake making, flipping and of course consuming pancakes!



Our team

This month we have exciting news about the votes for our staff member of the month - we had joint winners with equal votes for Vikki and Mary Parr (Mary is Vikki's Mum) so team Parr were celebrating their achievement with the rest of the staff. Well done! Comments for Vikki included reference to her commencing her new role as manager and "Stepping into your new role seamlessly, keeping everybody happy and the ship running smoothly." Also "Going straight into the Manager's role with a cool head and a can-do attitude."

Votes for Mary were equally positive, including "Mary is just ace! She is hardworking, helpful and lots of fun to be around." Another vote was "Mary is calm and helpful. She is always there for everyone when we need her."

Well done team Parr!

Vikki has also been to her first Local Authority meeting as our Manager and she was even put on the spot in front of all the managers in the Stockport area and asked about our success with our Makaton integration at nursery! She explained about all the training we have completed and how we are using Makaton signs and symbols throughout the nursery and then we were awarded our 'Makaton Friendly' award to recognise this.

Vikki has also continued her SEDNCO (Special Educational Needs) training which has been a fantastic opportunity to refine her knowledge even further and share experiences with other local nurseries to improve everybody's practice.

A warm welcome to Tasha who has now joined our lovely team and has settled in to her role as a Key Person in the toddler room. She enjoys messy play and has been busy with various creative projects in the toddler room , involving all the children and staff!

LPPA

HUGE CONGRATULATIONS to our staff team and all of our fabulous parents for all working together - we have now officially been awarded our Leading Parent Partnership Award which is a huge achievement in recognition of our commitment to working together with parents to ensure excellent outcomes for children. Our Prospects Inspector completed a 5 hour inspection with Ceri and was delighted with all of the different ways we involve parents with their children's learning including daily handover meetings, stay and play sessions, parent workshops, Christmas performances, parents evenings, online learning journals, communication books and parent social evenings.

Babies - News from the baby room

The babies have been getting involved with a range of singing activities, encompassing action songs like 'Row Row Row your Boat' to help develop their communication and language skills. They are all enjoying spending time with their friends and building relationships with their peers through sharing, turn taking and playing together. They have been on several adventures into the village and enjoyed trips to the park for a play. They are looking forward to investigating activities relating to Spring - lots of artwork will be involved!



Sarah, Niamh and Vikki :)

Toddlers - News from the toddler room



The toddlers have also enjoyed trips out of nursery to the library and local park and there was lots of excitement at nursery when there was snow to explore!

They are working on developing their relationships with their peers and play various games to encourage taking turns and working together. Our staff always focus on kind behaviour to reinforce this and they are very proud of themselves when they are praised for sharing and helping their friends.

In March they are focussing on growth and changes - looking at how flowers grow from seeds by watering them and giving them access to light. Come on Spring, we are ready for you!

Debi, Tasha and Jeny

Pre-School - News from the pre-school room

Our pre-school children fully immersed themselves in their Space and Planets topic. They became very knowledgeable about planets and would often discuss facts that they had learnt during mealtimes with their peers - so lovely to see! We encompassed all 7 areas of learning within this topic and one of their favourite activities this month was doing their rocket launch countdown (from 10 to 0) with floor posters to help them do this starting at the entrance of pre-school. Their phonics is really progressing via a range of different activities and we are very proud of their recognition of different sounds during their daily routine at pre-school.

During March the Pre-School children will be focusing on Spring time activities now that the weather is changing for the better and the mornings and evenings will be getting lighter too!

Terri, Ceri and Dominique

Sainsburys Active Kids Vouchers

We are collecting these vouchers and are looking forward to using them to get some new outdoor resources for the nursery - please pop them in the box in the hall if you have any.

NDNA Awards

You should now have received an e-mail explaining that we are entering Sarah Griffiths (baby room) and Michelle into the national NDNA Awards (National Day Nursery Association). We are hugely excited by this and would love for our staff to get as far as possible in the competition so please can I encourage you to follow the link we sent you in our e-mail <https://www.votendna.org.uk/vote&award=practitioner-of-the-year-award> to vote for Sarah to hopefully get her through to the next round of the competition. She really has worked her socks off this year and it would be great to help her celebrate this. One parent from each family at the nursery can vote (your child can be in any room at the nursery, not just the baby room) and voting closes at the end of March so we don't have long. Votes are counted and the size of the nursery is taken into account to ensure fairness. Michelle's award has been entered but at the moment it is with a judging panel so parents aren't involved with the voting for this award at this stage. I promise to keep you informed of any further news on this.

Dates for your diary:

Wednesday 1st March - St. David's Day - various themed craft activities and a themed lunch!

Thursday 2nd March - World Book Day - children to dress up as their favourite book character!

Friday 17th March - St. Patrick's Day - all children to wear green to nursery if possible.

Friday 24th March - RED NOSE DAY! Children can come to nursery in crazy outfits (odd socks, crazy colours etc) with crazy hair ready for lots of themed activities and exploration!

Please could we ask you to.....

Bring wellies and coats in every day

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 coats as the weather can be unpredictable and children love splashing in our puddles! Thanks for your co-operation with this.

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.

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