Newsletter

April 2018

We have all been delighted with this beautifully warm and sunny weather we have been experiencing recently, it really is quite novel! Hopefully it is here to stay. Please can we ask that you apply suncream to your child before they arrive at nursery - it helps us get the children ready to explore the garden as soon as it's time for outdoor play. We always re-apply it for the afternoon (or as often as required during heat waves). Children are encouraged to drink lots and lots of water throughout the day in order to stay hydrated. Please can we ask you to remember to bring a sun hat in and also suitable footwear - please avoid Crocs and flip-flops as we have found them to not be as sturdy and can make children more accident prone in our garden as there are different levels and textures underfoot.

Charlotte Smith has recently completed her dissertation and submitted it to University so we would like to invite anyone who is interested to take it home and read it if you would like to. She has used children in the pre-school room as her research subjects (with permission from the respective parents of course) and it is all about how gender influences the play of pre-school children. It is a very interesting read and discusses "gender-specific" toys and how children of different genders play with other children of the same sex and also the opposite sex. Please ask Vikki or Terri if you would like to read it as we have a copy here for everyone to borrow.

Our team

Congratulations to our staff member of the month for April - Debi! Our staff have said “Debi continues to work hard in the toddler room, finding time to make a great music wall outside and always willing to cover shifts where needed. Thank you Debi.” Another vote said “Debi is always thinking of new, fresh ideas for activities and is such a happy, kind member of our team.” This is thoroughly well deserved and we are all really grateful to have such a fantastic member of staff to share her knowledge and ideas within the nursery Well done Debi, enjoy your early finish as a reward for all of your hard work.

NDNA Awards

We are delighted to announce that we have made it through to the final for both of the awards we entered - so Terri has now been interviewed by a panel for her Practitioner of the Year award and we have just had a visit from an inspector at the NDNA to judge our nursery for the Nursery of the Year award! Both of these interviews/inspections went really well and we are so proud of Terri and indeed the whole staff team for continuing to strive for excellence and deliver the very best care for the children at nursery. The next stage is the awards evening in Coventry on Friday 22nd June which we are so excited about! Vikki, Terri and Ceri will be there biting our nails as they announce the winners for each award and we will try our best to film this live on Facebook for you all to witness! Keep your fingers and toes crossed for us and thanks again for all your votes to get us to where we are!

Babies - News from the baby room

In April the baby team have welcomed a couple of new starters to the baby room so they have been involved in lots of socialisation activities involving sharing and exploring. They have also visited the local parks several times and have been happy in the sunshine in the baby garden exploring the sensory herb garden, mud kitchen and slide. In May they are welcoming Tasha to the baby room and saying a for farewell to Nina and Niamh who are hopping over the gate to join the toddler team with some of their older babies joining them shortly.

Sarah, Tasha and Mary :)

Toddlers - News from the toddler room

The toddler room have been busy with trips to Unwins (the greengrocers in the village) followed by a lovely fruit tasting activity including mango, kiwi, pineapple and grapefruit! They enjoyed a teddy bears picnic and have also had a few al-fresco meals in this beautiful sunshine! They successfully grew some cress from seeds (much to everyone's delight!) and explored different ways of painting, including using pom noms and pegs. In May the toddlers will be visiting the local park and also saying goodbye to Jeny who is moving upstairs to pre-school and welcoming Nina and Niamh into their room to work alongside Debi and Victoria.

Debi, Niamh, Nina and Victoria

Pre-School - News from the pre-school room

Pre-School have been busy this month with their Peter Rabbit topic which certainly got all of the children engaged. There were lots of discussions about vegetables, Mr. McGregor's garden and lots of craft activities making bunnies out of different media. They also enjoyed exploring the wider community - visiting the ice cream shop, library and park. Behind the scenes we have been leasing with local primary schools now that all of the school places have been confirmed for September and we are delighted that all of the local schools will be visiting the children at nursery before they move on to school. It is a very exciting time for our eldest children and their parents and they are very busy getting ready for their next adventures at school.

Our new topic for May is transport and we are excited to learn all about different modes of transport which is always a firm favourite in pre-school. We are also planning a trip to B and Q to look at colour mixing which the children have been very interested in recently. We are delighted to welcome Jeny to our pre-school room - she has already been very busy teaching everyone some Spanish words and getting involved in lots of creative activities!

Terri, Ceri, Julie, Georgia and Jeny.

Dates for your diary:

10th May - Dads night out - get your glad rags on (or your crazy party shirts) and hit the Mounting Stone with Paul

18th May - Royal Wedding Party! Children and Parents who attend that day 2.30pm-4.00pm

21st May - Technology Day

23rd May - mini disco for babies!

30th May - visit from Zoolab - children will have an opportunity to see lots of different animals at nursery.

Theatre Tots - every Monday at 10am the toddlers will be enjoying a Theatre Tots class involving singing, dancing and drama with Natalie.

A group of Pre-School children will be walking to Sunrise Care Home each week to sing, dance and play with Tracey from Boogie Beats with the residents at Sunrise every other Monday.

Kick Starters Football classes will be taking place every Tuesday for pre-school children (30 minute session each in the garden in 2 groups)

Please could we ask you to…..

Outdoor Play
As mentioned above please can you apply suncream to your child before they arrive at nursery and bring a sun hat for them to use.

Spare Clothes
Please can we ask parents to pack a bag with at least 2 changes of clothes (including underwear and **socks)** as the children often get very messy during activities at nursery and need to have a full change of outfit!

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