

# Newsletter February 2021

Wow! That seemed to be a quick month! We have been very busy with lots of Valentine's themed activities and the nursery was a sea of red for a few days which was lovely. We have also seen a change in the weather in the past week or so which has really brightened everyone's spirits as the sun has been shining in glorious blue skies. We are all looking forward to following the roadmap out of lockdown, with schools due to go back next Monday 8th March followed by further easing of restrictions on 29th March.

We are looking forward to taking the children out of nursery for local walks on quieter footpaths from 29th March and Forest School sessions for the older Pre-School children will resume after the Easter break, from 12th April. We will be in touch with any further changes to our current Covid procedures in due course but please rest assured that all of our Covid policies are still diligently followed to ensure our safety is not compromised. The most important thing is to ensure that you seek immediate medical advice if your child is at all unwell with Covid-19 symptoms and do not come to nursery. Thank you all to parents for wearing masks when you drop off and collect your children, it really is appreciated.

We are all excited to be able to see the light at the end of the tunnel and a return to more social times hopefully. We want you to rest assured that the children are all having a fantastic time at nursery where the world has just carried on as normal, for which we are extremely grateful.



# Our Team

Congratulations to our staff member of the month this month - Tasha! Tasha works tirelessly in the Baby room to ensure the babies are nurtured and have a brand range of stimulating activities and she is also our 'Third in Charge' which means she has extra responsibilities and supports our Management Team. Comments from the staff team included;

"Tasha has been amazing over the last month, embracing the outdoors with babies, providing lots of learning opportunities for them to explore the world around them. Nothing is ever too much trouble for Tasha as she supports staff and the Management Team. Well done Tasha."

"Tasha gets my vote because of her willing attitude to always help when asked, Tasha has also done some lovely messy activities with the babies and some brilliant regular outdoor sessions in the big garden, embracing all weathers and providing some great learning opportunities for the children"

We are all extremely proud of Tasha, well done.

This month we have waved goodbye to Emily from the Baby Room team as Emily is spreading her wings and pursuing a new career managing a very busy coffee shop at Poynton Baptist Church which is due to open over the next few weeks. We wish Emily the best of luck in her new role and are looking forward to popping in for a coffee and chat as soon as it's up and running.

As we say a fond farewell to Emily we are delighted to welcome Megan back into our Baby room who has returned from maternity leave and is working on Mondays and Wednesdays. Megan now has 2 young sons, Spencer and Elton. She has lots of plans to continue her Makaton training and we are all excited to have Megan back in the team. We are hoping that parents will be allowed back into the building over the next few months which will really help you to get to know the team even better than you do now and we are very much looking forward to this.

#### Babies - News from the baby room

The babies were very busy with lots of red activities for Valentine's Day. They have also enjoyed exploring the big garden and they particularly enjoyed the mud kitchen! They enjoyed some sensory messy play with Cocoa powder and sticks, the room smelt good enough to eat!

Some of the older babies are busy preparing to move into toddlers so have been sitting to eat at the 'big' table in the baby room and have been drinking their milk from cups instead of bottles too. Thank you to parents for supporting with this transition at home too.

Next month the team are excited about World Book Day, Mother's Day, and 'Rainbow Day' on 23rd March and they are also updating their display boards with a fantastic interactive Spring display.

Tasha, Natalie and Megan.

Toddlers - News from the toddler room

The toddlers have been busy baking this month - making heart shaped pizzas for Valentines Day and salt dough hearts. They have been busy with glue and exploring how to get different craft items to stick onto different materials.

They have also been birdwatching! We are very lucky to have blue tits nesting in the bird box and they have made some bird feeders for them. The staff are delighted to see the children flourishing with their independence and they are getting really good at dressing themselves when they go outside to play - they also now know to ask their peers for help and support each other with these routines which is lovely to see.

There was a very calm day at the end of the month where the toddler team celebrated 'Hygge' day where they completed lots of different wellbeing activities, including some lovely sharing of ideas during their group time discussions.

Niamh, Debi, Matty and Leila.

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

Pre-School have been busy discussing recycling and pollution this month and completed various activities linked to this. They enjoy a trip to the nursery bins to sort the rubbish which is something they could also help out with at home.

They have shown a keen interest in construction activities this month so we have supported this by providing lots of opportunities for them to follow this interest in different ways and learn different skills. Terri enjoyed getting the "real" tools out with them, showing them the safety procedures that we must follow when we are using real tools. These activities have also helped them to develop their fine motor skills which then helps them with their pencil control. As part of our 'wellbeing awareness' we have introduced a daily session of yoga for the children which has been a lovely time for them to regroup and relax in a calm environment.

We have also had lots of fun with so many different phonics activities and a particular favourite was a treasure hunt in the garden which we kept the props for and they keep returning to and setting it up themselves for their peers to complete a treasure hunt!

As we move into March our new topic is growth which we will report back on next month.

Terri, Marta, Julie, Olivia, Nina, Sue, Georgia and Ceri.

Please could we remind you.....

### Allergies

Just a reminder to all families to please not bring any food or drinks into the nursery when you drop your child off. This is in line with our risk assessments for children with allergies. We have children at nursery with severe allergies so all of our food and drink preparation has to be completed inside our own kitchen to prevent accidental cross contamination. Thank you for your understanding.

### Face Coverings

We would like to thank you for your continued support at drop off and collection times with wearing face masks to help protect our team and other families.

## Clothing

We would like to remind everyone to bring in suitable outdoor clothing every day as we take the children into the garden whatever the weather. Please bring in wellies or snow boots, waterproof coats, hats, scarves and gloves and lots of spare clothes to change into if they do get wet. Warm socks are also important in this weather to keep their toes toasty as otherwise wellies can feel cold. We appreciate your support with this.

#### Dates for your diary:

1st March - St. David's Day
4th March - World Book Day
17th March - St. Patrick's Day
23rd March - Rainbow Day in the Baby Room
29th March - We will begin taking children out for walks in the local area again!

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