Newsletter

Autumn 2021

Welcome to the Autumn edition of our newsletter. Everyone has welcomed the beautiful weather over the past few weeks and it seems this week the rain has come which the children like because of the huge puddles it provides to splash in in the garden!

Parent Partnerships

It has been so lovely to welcome parents back in to nursery and we thank you all for continuing to wear masks when dropping off and collecting your child, it really helps as we have lots of footfall into our building!

We are extremely proud of the strong relationships we have with all of our families and we are keen to ask for your help to enrich the children's learning. Children thrive on new experiences and the revised curriculum details the importance of enhancing children's learning opportunities through a wide range of activities and stimuli. We would like to invite you to share your knowledge with our children (and staff) and would be delighted if you could spare a little of your time to come in and offer a new experience to our children that you feel would benefit them. It could be a skill such as playing an instrument, art, sport, science, gardening etc or you could come and talk to them about your job or your culture or anything at all that you feel you could offer. Children are curious and fascinated by simple things, so please do let us know if you are able to spare just an hour of your time to come and share something with us, we would really appreciate it after a year of not being able to offer such opportunities. Inviting others in to share their experiences and skills touches on the Reggio Emilia approach to learning which is based on the principles of respect, responsibility and community through exploration, discovery and play.

Our Team

Congratulations to our staff member of the month this month - Niamh! Niamh has moved up into our Pre-School room with some of her key children and comments from the staff who voted for Niamh to win included “Niamh has hit the ground running in her new room. She deals with all situations with calmness, professionalism and dedication. Well done Niamh.”

“Niamh has been fabulous in Pre-School. She has lovely interactions with the children, keenly following their interests and just being amazing overall. Thank you for your hard work.”

This month we welcome a lovely new staff member into our team, Katie Church. Katie is Level 2 qualified and is going to be based in our Pre-School room, working alongside Terri, Olivia, Niamh, Nina and Sue. Katie has been very busy getting to know the children through a range of different activities including messy play, music and role play.

We are also very excited to announce that we have recently signed up to an online training program to ensure our staff have access to the most up to date training to ensure we are delivering outstanding practice throughout the nursery. Everyone has been very busy completing their first online module which is all about the new Early Years Framework which became statutory in September 2021. The main changes to take note of as parents are that there is now an emphasis on allowing practitioners to spend more time with the children and less time on paperwork, to improve the outcomes for all children. The new framework states;
“Assessment (of children) should not entail prolonged breaks from interaction with children, nor require excessive paperwork.”

This is a move which has been welcomed by Early Years Settings, as we are now able to use our knowledge of the children (rather than documenting lengthy forms of evidence) to extend their thinking further and provide opportunities for them to follow their interests and learn through play across all 7 areas of learning. Please let us know if you have any questions about this and we will be happy to help.

News from our Baby and Toddler Room

The children are delighted with our new calming sensory bubble tube which you will find in our sensory room. They love watching and pointing at the fish inside the tube, following their movement and babbling or talking about what they can see.

The children have all enjoyed some Autumn walks in our local neighbourhood and have collected Autumn leaves of different colours, shapes and sizes which they used to paint and make a beautiful display in our porch. We have all enjoyed singing sessions with Ceri playing the guitar and children joining in with some actions and words and moving their body with the music.

Our team have rearranged the home corner area within the room to encourage different types of role play and this has been a big hit with the children who have enjoyed exploring this area.

Tasha, Natalie, Debi and Alice.

Pre-School - News from the pre-school room

Our Pre-School children have completed some very colourful Autumn activities, including learning about hedgehogs, making sensory play-doh with Autumnal scents and playing in the exploration tray using natural resources such as conkers and acorns.

The children have fully immersed themselves in our revamped mud kitchen area in the garden and have been busy making all sorts of culinary delights in there for their peers and key-person to “taste”!

We also have some new ‘Orchard Toys’ games which we are playing in small groups to encourage turn taking and following a set of rules in order to play the game. We highly recommend these games to play with your child at home if you have access to them as they give opportunities to develop many different skills.

Terri, Olivia, Nina, Sue, Niamh, Katie and Ceri.

Please could we remind you about…..

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.

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