



Newsletter

October 2022

Welcome to our latest newsletter. We have been very busy this month and we are delighted to report that the builders are very nearly finished with our project next door and we have been busy behind the scenes, recruiting new staff to join our team and we have been planning the layout of the classrooms next door to ensure everything will be in place ready for us to open our new doors in January.

The building next door will be home to our older children, from the age of 3 upwards. They will be in 2 rooms, with our school leaver group in the downstairs classroom and the younger Pre-School children upstairs. In our current building the downstairs room will be home to our youngest babies from birth to 2 and our upstairs room will be for our 2-3 year olds. We will be changing the furniture in the upstairs room to meet the needs of our younger learners and we are working hard to ensure the transition to the new layout of both buildings is as smooth as possible. Please don't hesitate to ask any questions you may have.



The team have all been working together on various tasks next door to help get everything ready and you can see a sneak peek here of one of our reading dens which our team have been busily building.



Our Team

Congratulations to our staff member of the month in October - We had so many lovely comments and we have a trio of winners this month - Gary, Isobel and Annabel! Gary was praised for "Hitting the ground running in the kitchen and always having a smile on his face and making the most delicious food!" Isobel's votes included, "She is wonderful and such an asset to the team. I have thoroughly enjoyed working alongside her and seeing her growth in the nursery, plus it's clear she is loved by all the children, She's got such a positive attitude and always a smile on her face." Annabel's votes included "She is always so smiley and pleasant and gets stuck in with the children straight away. Thank you for being so eager to learn all about the children's development."

Well done to all 3 of you, it's fantastic that our team are all working so hard!

We have welcomed some new members of staff to our team over the last few weeks, after a host of interviews and trials at the nursery. This has been to prepare us for our move into the new building and to ensure the staff are fully up to speed with our policies and procedures and our ethos before we open the new building.

Annabel has recently started in our downstairs room as a Nursery Assistant and has previously worked as a jeweller and a baker but since her first nephew has come along she decided that she would love to pursue a career in childcare and has settled in to her role like a duck to water. In her spare time, Annabel enjoys going to the cinema, swimming and walking and spends lots of time with her nephew. At nursery Annabel likes to spend quality time with the children in small groups, reinforcing key words using songs, books and visual prompts.

Isobel also joins Annabel in our downstairs team and has previously volunteered in a nursery group which made her realise she would like to pursue a career in childcare. Isobel's favourite activity is sensory play and is often found in our dedicated sensory room, or next to a tuff tray covered in some form of colourful gloop! In her spare time Isobel is a rollerblader and she also enjoys knitting (2 starkly contrasting hobbies!)

Kirk has also joined us as a Nursery Nurse and is currently spending time across both rooms. She has settled in well and is level 2 qualified with over

2 years experience in childcare. Kirk enjoys a range of exciting hobbies including aerial hoop, slack lining and going to the gym.

Katelyn is the final addition to our downstairs team and joins us on the apprenticeship scheme. She enjoys reading stories with the children and tabletop activities like jigsaws and threading. Outside of work, Katelyn enjoys an active lifestyle - playing football, going to the gym and socialising with her friends.

Hannah has joined our Pre-School team and is a talented artist, inspiring the children with her creative ideas and knowledge. She loves exploring messy play activities and can create anything that the children request - boxes are never without a purpose here anymore! Hannah enjoys reading, painting and playing football in her spare time.

We said farewell to our nursery chef Sarah who has recently moved on from the nursery and Gary, who has been on our bank team as our second chef is now working full time in the kitchen. We are also recruiting for a second chef to work alongside Gary as we expand into our second building. Both chefs will be working together from the new building in the purpose built catering kitchen which looks fantastic.

All of our staff photos and profiles can be viewed at any time on our website www.therailwaynursery.co.uk

News from our Baby and Toddler Room

Our babies and toddlers have embraced the move to chillier temperatures and have been wrapping up to keep warm when they are exploring outside or on trips into the village. They particularly enjoyed various creative activities involving pumpkins as they are a sensory dream for Early Years Practitioners!

We had a hugely competitive Pumpkin carving competition with each room designing and creating their own carved pumpkins. The baby and toddler room based their pumpkin on the 'That's Not My...' books and created a masterpiece which led them to not only design a magnificent pumpkin but also to create their own accompanying 'That's not my Pumpkin' book which was a fantastic way of bringing the children's learning to life. Well done to our creative team of practitioners in our Baby and Toddler room for providing children with such resourceful ideas to stimulate their senses. We uploaded photos onto our Facebook Page and asked our followers to vote for their favourite... read on to find out the winning team!

The younger children have also been learning about oral health in different ways and they have been enjoying sensory activities with toothpaste (which provides an interesting smell and texture) and using the teeth models to help them learn how to brush their own teeth.

Chloe, Natalie, Allie, Megan, Annabel, Isobel, Kirk and Katelyn.

Pre-School - News from the Pre-School Room

We have been very busy in Pre-School with various creative projects (check out their huge robot who is currently in residence upstairs)! The older children have had several Forest School sessions now and they look forward to their sessions with enthusiasm and open minds!

Halloween activities created a spooky atmosphere in the Pre-School room and the children loved discussing different activities they had been doing at home - some had been apple bobbing or trick or Treating and some had friends over for Halloween parties which was a lovely talking point at mealtimes.

Pre-School created an amazing 'ghost train' pumpkin which was an elaborate design, encompassing all of the children's faces who climbed on board the train! The voting on Facebook created a surge of excitement within the nursery and there were lots of votes for each creation but the Pre-School team pipped the Baby and Toddler team with slightly more votes! Well done! Roll on next year!!

Rebecca also took a Manager's vote on the displays on the doors of each room which I'm sure you saw over Halloween and the winning team for this was the Baby and Toddler team as their display had the most involvement from the children so well done to them.

Terri, Marta, Niamh, Sue, Hannah, Rachael, Kirsty, Tasha, Tanaya and Ceri.

Please could we remind you about.....

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 coats/waterproof suits and wellies for children even on sunnier days as we use these when playing in the mud kitchen in the

garden. As we now enter into Autumn please ensure children have enough layers to protect them from the cold.

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