



# NEWSLETTER

## Welcome to our January 2009 newsletter

### A Happy New Year Wish

My Happy New Year wish for you  
Is for your best year yet,  
A year where life is peaceful,  
And what you want, you get.  
A year in which you cherish  
The past year's memories,  
And live your life each new day  
Full of bright expectancies.  
And when it's done, I wish you  
Happy New Year, and many more.

### Nursery Monthly Theme

December was full of Christmas cheer and fun filled activities for all. We hope you enjoyed the Christmas pictures and creations that the children made throughout the month.

### Babies

During the month of December the children focused on Christmas and were busy making decorations and gifts. Our festive display was when 'Santa got stuck up the chimney'. Children made their own stocking to hang up on the fireplace for Father Christmas to put presents in. The children enjoyed listening to the staff singing the song and giggled when we all sneezed. We decorated our room with our homemade decorations, we glittered snowflakes and displayed them on the windows to look like it was snowing, and we made Father Christmas's. To continue the winter theme we decorated snowmen

on black card and hand printed them with white paint and glitter. We hope you all enjoyed your snowmen biscuits. We decorated them with white icing and used chocolate drops for their eyes, mmm yummy!!

### Older Babies

During this festive month the older babies also had fun with the festive activities making decorations and singing and dancing to our Christmas songs. For our Christmas display we made our very own Christmas tree and every one created their own bauble to hang from the branches.

We had fun making some yummy festive cakes, which we decorated with stars and silver balls. The children were very good at counting the ingredients into the bowls and giving it a good mix.

We also made our mummies and Daddy's a calendar for the New Year that we decorated with our dabber pens.

Happy New Year

### Toddler Room

At the start of last month we decorated our snowflakes with lots of sparkly glitter. By folding our paper and cutting different shapes we made a variety of shaped snowflakes. For our Christmas display we made our own snowman advent calendar, each day we opened up a different door on the count down to Christmas day. Behind each door there was a different festive picture. Alongside our Christmas theme we looked at

animals that live in cold countries with snow. We displayed lots of our penguin and polar bear pictures around the room that promoted a vocal point for the children to discuss their pictures and how they were created.



Jack all snuggled in his outdoor clothes

In this cold weather we looked at how to keep warm when we go outside and enjoyed dressing up in our hats, gloves, scarves and coats. We encouraged the children to learn how to put on their own clothes to promote independence.

We had great fun exploring the tinsel with our hands and decorating our friends with it.



Joshua with a festive scarf

For our Christmas gifts we made star Christmas tree decorations out of card and silver foil, which we glued glitter and tinsel to. We hope you liked the flower calendars we made for you.

Happy New Year to you

### **Pre-School Room**

In Pre-School this month we were very busy being creative using different materials and our hands to make pictures and gifts for everyone, including Santa!

For our December display we made a big snowman using cotton wool and black tissue paper for his eyes

and buttons, for Father Christmas we decorated his outfit with different red coloured materials and used shiny black paper for his boots. We created a Christmas tree that we displayed on one of our windows using green handprints for the branches and made lots of baubles to decorate the tree.



Our Festive display

We decorated our room with stockings using glitter and shiny paper, snowmen made from cotton wool and painted paper plates with foil and white sand to make yummy looking Christmas puddings.

We made reindeer using the prints from our hands and feet and stuck big red pom poms on for his nose. We found out that our feet were very tickly and we did get very messy, oops!

We made 3d models of angels to decorate our Christmas trees with our faces as the angels. We hope you liked them for your trees at home.

For our Christmas cards we personalised pictures of Father Christmas by placing our photos of ourselves instead of Santa's we thought they looked very funny hope you did to.

For your 2009 calendars we used a variety of materials like, pasta, rice, dish cloths, spaghetti, pipe cleaners, paint and cotton wool. We painted a paper plate then looked into a mirror to see our faces then we recreated our faces on the plate. We then got really messy with our hands and feet and attached dangling arms and legs to our plate.



The Christmas tree lights are on!!

## January Nursery Theme



In January our monthly theme is music and instruments, the children and staff will be looking at a variety of instruments and investigating the different sounds they make. We would be grateful for any tubes or boxes to help in our musical creations.

### Christmas Play and Parties

Thank you all for coming to our festive celebrations. The babies and toddlers had a great time at their fun filled Christmas party. Jo Jingles entertained us with Jo and his Christmas songs. We shook our shakers and waved our sparkly ribbons. After lots of singing everyone joined in with the parachute games where we shook the parachute to bounce the fluffy snowflakes.



Playing with the parachute

The Pre-School children gave a fantastic performance of 'Our Journey Through Christmas' they practised so hard with the songs and they all looked wonderful in their costumes. After their performance Uncle Wiggy came to entertain us with his magic tricks followed by a puppet show. Unfortunately we had a camera problem that afternoon which meant that we didn't get any pictures of the children's play. So I am sending out a huge request to you all for copies of any pictures you may have taken so that we can display them in the Nursery for everyone to enjoy.



Harry concentrating hard at the rehearsals

On Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December we all enjoyed a yummy roast turkey dinner, we pulled our crackers and wore our Christmas hats.



Isabelle enjoying her festive meal

### New Children

With all this festive fun happening we welcome Emily Pither-Day to the Baby room. Emily has made new friends at Nursery and has become very confident on her feet.

This month we welcome Courtney and Leeya to the Toddler Room and Sam to the Pre-School Room, we hope they enjoy the fun at Nursery and I'm sure you will join me in making them and their families welcome.

### New Staff

In December we welcomed to the team Laura, Laura will be working alongside Sharon in the Pre-School Room. She has previously worked in a local Pre-School and she is looking to extend her qualifications by completing a NVQ level 3 in childcare. In November we said a sad good-bye to Angela our Nursery cook, however we made a warm welcome to our new cook Olwyn in December. Olwyn has recently moved to the area and has extensive experience with catering and has continued to provide a healthy menu for the children.

Due to the increase in numbers we will be welcoming new faces to our staff team this year and I'm sure the staff will introduce you to them when they join.

### **Pre-School uniform**

As I'm sure you are all aware all Pre-School children are required to wear pre-school uniform when attending Nursery. You can purchase this uniform from [www.simplicons.com](http://www.simplicons.com). The cost of the uniform is £10 for a blue jumper and £7 for the polo shirt. However you can also purchase second hand uniform from the Nursery office. The jumpers are priced at £5 and the polo shirts are £3.50 so if you would like to purchase them please come and see me in the Nursery.

### *Prams & Pushchairs*

If you have a pram or pushchair that you no longer require, we would be very grateful if it could be donated to the Nursery. This allows the younger babies to have more regular outings into the garden and outdoor activities.

### *Telephone Number*

If you need to contact us via telephone during the day, please can you ensure you call the direct line which is 01442 266119. Some parent's have been calling Head Office and although this telephone is downloaded regularly, it is not manned all day.

### **Birthdays**



We had lots of birthdays to celebrate in December  
In Babies we sang Happy 1st Birthday to Emily Pither-Day and Archie McAuley.  
In Pre-School we celebrated 3<sup>rd</sup> birthdays with Nina-Paige, Jamie, Abbie and Michal.

Happy Birthday to all our friends from Positive Steps

Heidi and team