



NEWSLETTER

Welcome to our October 2008 newsletter.

It's amazing how quickly each month is passing. Soon we will be practising our Christmas songs so please keep reading to find out more about the dates and times of our Christmas performances.

This month the children and staff have been focusing on Nursery stories and songs so I hope the children have been teaching you the new songs we have been learning and practising.

New Children

I am sure you have seen lots of new faces at the Nursery, and we are pleased how everyone is settling into their new environment. I am also glad to see all the friendships that are forming at the nursery and hope that they will be friends for many years to come. In our baby unit we would like to welcome this month Isabella, Emilie, Tia and Daisy. They are settling in really well and enjoy exploring and investigating what's inside our picture toy boxes



The toddler room is also growing and in October we will be welcoming Oliver and Connor. We look forward to them joining the Nursery and hope they will be very happy with us.

In Pre-school we have welcomed this month Jack, Jack loves playing with the cars and reading books.



Jack is happy playing with his new friends in the pre-school room.

Staff news

Due to the steady growth in our numbers throughout the nursery we are currently recruiting new members of staff to join our team. This month Mandy will be joining our Baby unit. Mandy has extensive experience working with the under 2's in her present Nursery setting. I am sure that you will have the opportunity to be introduced to Mandy when she joins our team.

Zoe Nicholls has also started her BA in Education Studies this month. Supported by positive Steps, Zoe will be attending the University of Hatfield part-time in order to achieve her degree.

Room News

Our topic this month has been 'Songs and Stories'

Baby Room

The baby room and the staff have been enjoying focusing on Nursery Rhymes and songs. They have been looking at modern stories like the Gruffalo but also the classic favourites like the gingerbread man, Noah's Ark and Goldilocks and the Three Bears.

Each day the staff organise a group time for all the children to be a part of to either read a story, sing a song or to introduce something as part of our theme. To follow on from these stories and rhymes the children have been given the opportunity to extend their learning using a variety of resources and to be involved in a variety of activities.

We have been having breakfast and making porridge with the tea set, decorating gingerbread men (we hope you liked them) dressing up with the hats and bags and using our animals to sing 'Old Macdonald'. Did you know he had dinosaurs on his farm?



The babies enjoyed painting the three bears, their porridge bowls, the woods and Goldilocks

We have been singing lots of songs and our favourite ones at the moment are 'wind the bobbin', 'heads shoulders knees and toes' and 'If you happy and you know it'. We are all getting very clever at these action songs, Izzi and Finley's favourite is 'ring a ring a roses'

Toddler Room

In the toddler room we have also been focusing on stories and nursery rhymes. We read about the three little pigs and the big bad wolf, we made straw, stick and brick houses and pigs noses.

We sung about humpty dumpty and made paper Mache humpty dumpty's and painted them pink. We also made a humpty dumpty display with a wall for Humpty dumpty and all the kings' horses and all the kings' men. We got really messy using paint, felt fur and tissue to make the display tactile.

We sung about incy wincey spider and how he climbed up the drain pipe and then made our very own spiders using tissue paper and pipe cleaners and googly eyes to make them even more lifelike.

We learnt the song about Mary, Mary and planted some seeds just like her, we have been watering them every day and they have already started to grow!



We have been listening to stories and enjoying our favourite nursery rhymes as well as participating in new experiences which encourage us to learn more about the meanings behind them and to develop our knowledge and understanding of the world around us.



We love song time during our bop about music sessions.

The nursery environment

You may have notice that our nursery environment has now evolved and due to the increase in children we have been able to now utilise more rooms. Our baby room has now been divided into older and younger babies and downstairs is now toddlers in one room and preschool in the second. We have also looked at the location of each individual child in terms of their age, needs and ability which has also led us to moved children into different rooms in order to help us support their needs and help them to reach their full potential. This may mean that your child's key carer may have changed and you have received written confirmation of this, if you have any further enquiries on this or any other relating matter the management team will be happy to discuss these with you.



Look at our new Pre-school room!

Uniform

We would like to remind all parents that it is compulsory for all children to have a positive Steps bag for their personal belongings; this can be purchased at £5.00 from the nursery office. There are also legionnaire style hats available which have adjustable straps and a detachable neck protector, you can purchase the hat also from Nursery office for £4.50.

For those children who have recently moved up into the Pre-school room we would also like to remind you that our uniform is still available to purchase online at www.simplyicons.com/shop/postive_steps

Future Events

This month we are getting ready for Christmas and we have been being very creative making Christmas cards. These cards will be individually made by your child and will be available for you to purchase for all your friends and family to enjoy. The cards are reasonably priced at £6 for a pack of 12 and any additional cards at the price of £4. You will receive an order form with your child's card please return this to us by Wednesday 15th October so that the cards can be printed and ready for your collection before Christmas.

We are also looking forward to this year's parents evening which we are planning to hold before Christmas, this is where you will be able to come into nursery and discuss with your child's key carer how they are progressing in nursery and developmentally. This is the ideal opportunity to discuss and changes of routine or concerns you may have regarding your child's care.

Birthdays and Congratulations

Happy Birthday to Henry Maidoh on 18th October and Curtis Poole on 17th October.

Also Happy First Birthday to Beatrice Peacock on 31st October.

Many Happy returns to Kirsty Element whose Birthday it is on 7th October.

Happy birthday from all your friends at Positive Steps.

Congratulations to Lianne also who is getting married on Friday 31st October, Lianne has been working in our toddler room and we wish her every success on her future wedding day.



We hope you have enjoyed reading our monthly newsletter.