



NEWSLETTER



Welcome to our November Newsletter.

The cold weather finally seems to be upon us and the changes in the season have given plenty of opportunity to talk about colours, feelings, weather and animals. All the rooms have enjoyed the topic of Autumn in their own way.

The nursery is preparing for Halloween with each room being decorated ready for their tea parties. The pre school children have used the subject of Halloween to learn about bones and the structure of the skeleton. We have incorporated the different bones in songs that we sing including 'Doggy, doggy where's your bone?'



Harry modeling a skeleton.

All the children and staff will be dressing up for the occasion and we look forward to seeing the results in next months newsletter!!

We are also preparing for Christmas with our pre school Christmas play well under way. The children are singing the new songs and practicing the words, as it is only 7 weeks away, meaning Christmas is only 9 weeks away!!!

Christmas Opening times

We will be open on Christmas Eve until 4.00pm and will re-open after Christmas on Wednesday 2nd January 2008.

Sensory Zone

We have booked a weekly visit to the Sensory Zone at the Magnet Centre as of Monday 29th October. We will be taking a group of 6 children a week from each room in turn, starting with the baby room. The sensory zone is a room, which allows the children to explore various sounds, lights and textures and is suitable for all ages. You will be informed in advance when we will be taking your child. Should you wish your child to stay in nursery, please let your key carer know.

Labeling clothes

Please could we remind parents to ensure their child's clothes are clearly labeled with their child's name. We are collecting quite a lot of t-shirts, trousers and jumpers that are not being claimed and end up in our 'spare clothes box'.

Update of children's information

You will all have received a letter asking for details of voucher payments and to update your child's records. Please could you return these forms to the nursery as soon as possible even if your details have not altered. We need to ensure our records are accurate at all times.

Babies

We would like to welcome Leo and Francesca to the baby room. They have both settled in very well and are enjoying spending time with their new friends.

This month we have been exploring a variety of objects to incorporate the topic of Autumn and Halloween.

The babies have been feeling leaves, conkers and fir cones and have used them to create some artwork.

We have also been preparing for Halloween by making lots of decorations for the room. You will see our pictures of bats, ghosts and spiders, which were created by our hand and footprints. We used some orange fabric to make some lovely pumpkins.



Niamh making her pumpkin

Through all these activities the children have been able to feel different materials such as glue, textured fabric, paint, crayons and chalk, all under close supervision of staff!!

One activity the babies really enjoy is playing with the playdough. They love to squash it through their fingers and poke and prod it. They can roll it, flatten it and cut out shapes.



Mia concentrating on her playdough.

Although it has recently got a little colder, we still enjoy going outside daily. The children gain so much from having the space to move around, using the climbing equipment to pull themselves up on, this helps to build their confidence in climbing.



Lucas playing hula hoops!!

As the weather is now becoming a lot colder, please could you provide your child with appropriate clothing and ensure it is clearly labeled with your child's name. We have recently had an incident where shoes have gone home with the wrong child and we ask that you check the items of clothing are the correct ones when going home.

Older babies

Welcome to Salu, Cameron and Jessica who are new to the nursery and Grace, Elliot, Will, Saki and Izzy who have all come through from the baby room.

We have created a large leaf picture by colouring our leaves with chalks. We also managed to colour ourselves in the process!

On an outing to the park, we collected some Autumn items such as conkers, leaves and acorns and brought them back to the nursery. We kicked the leaves and listened to them crunching under our feet. When we got back to the nursery we chose our leaves and painted them using two colours of paint and mixing them together.

While we were at the park we had a picnic and spent some time on the swings and slides. We loved using all the equipment at the park and took turns on the swings.



Abbie, Salu and Jessica enjoying our picnic.



Roan and Kirsty on the roundabout.

We have also been busy preparing for Halloween by making pictures of ghosts, witches and scarecrows. We have also made a 'candy bowl' where we covered a bowl with paper mache using cut outs of our hand prints and sticking them to the outside of a bowl. We really enjoyed getting very messy during this activity!



Tom covering our candy bowl.

Toddlers

For the month of October the toddlers have been creating many pieces of artwork. The focus has been on Autumn and Halloween. We have used leaves to discover shapes, textures and colours and some of the children have brought in their own findings from around their homes to look at and talk about. The staff also brought in some flowers, herbs, conkers and various other plants that we find in Autumn. Halloween is fast approaching and the children have been very busy making Halloween decorations. We have painted bats, made spider hand prints, stuck tissue on to pumpkins, had our feet painted to create scary ghosts. All of these art decorations can be seen around the toddler room.



Joel painting his bat!!

For Halloween we will be having a fancy dress tea party where we will be going to carve out pumpkins

and catch apples. We are looking forward to seeing all of the spooky costumes!!

Singing and music are always a big part of the nursery as it is a lot of fun and the children love to participate. We are very lucky to have 'Music Matters' who visit us on Fridays to teach us new songs. Sarah brings along instruments and different props to make the music more fun.



A Music Matters session

We also use different methods of adding actions to songs such as setting up a bus whilst singing 'The Wheels on the Bus'. The children enjoy taking on a solo role when singing some songs. Morgan sings 'Monkeys jumping on the bed' while Tommy loves being the doctor, and Henrienne loves to sing 'Little Rabbit Foo Foo' and 'Ba Ba Black sheep'.



"The wheels on the bus....."

The children have made hand puppets to use with our story and singing times to allow all the children to participate.

October has been a very busy and creative month and we are looking forward to what November will bring.

Pre School

The month of October has been a scary one in the pre school room. Alongside our main theme of Autumn, like the rest of the nursery, we have been busy preparing decorations, games and masks for our Halloween party on 31st October. All the children have been very creative and have made a lot of exciting things such as hanging bats and ghosts, trick or treat sweet boxes and pumpkin facemasks. The room is already looking good and we are hoping to have a very enjoyable day.



Paige and Sonia busy making their 'Trick or treat' boxes

With Autumn upon us we have taken the opportunity to incorporate the weather in our activities. At the beginning of the month Anna took Juliette, Guillermo, Adam and Alfie to the grassed area around the side of the nursery to collect some leaves, sycamore seeds and conkers. Alfie even managed to persuade Guillermo and Adam to carry a large branch back with them!!

All these resources were incorporated into a number of activities, which included threading leaves, crayon rubbings from the branch, texture tables and leaf blowing. The mixture of colours initiated some fun mathematical opportunities such as laying leaves in colour coordinating patterns, sorting leaves into shapes, size and colour and grouped into numbers to match number cards.

The children re-enacted leaves dancing in the wind by clearing the room of furniture, putting on the music and throwing the leaves in the air whilst dancing like leaves. We also used coloured scarves to add to the fun. The staff enjoyed this as much as the children.

As each monthly theme changes, so do the display boards. The children put a lot of effort into creating the displays to represent the theme. Please do look at them on your way through the nursery.

We encourage the children in pre school to be independent and help develop their self-help skills, in preparation for school. At snack time the children find their names, put it into the pot and serve their own snack. Sometimes they have the opportunity to prepare the snack themselves, under the watchful eye of a staff member, they are able to cut their own fruit before they eat it.



Alfie, Lewis and Elias preparing snack.

Our theme for November is colour, shape and texture. Should the children wish to bring in objects

that relate to this topic we will use them in our 'show and tell' time.

Increase in fees

Please note that the new nursery fee increase is scheduled in January 2008. A letter will be given to you in early November stating your child's fee increase. Please be assured that the additional income that is generated is always invested back into the nursery. As you can see in the last year the nursery has had a significant amount of work completed, all to a very high standard including fixtures and fittings.

Spare clothes.

Please could we ask parents to provide your child with some spare clothes to keep in their bags at nursery. The older children as well as the younger ones often need to change their clothes after doing a wet or messy activity and we are not always able to find spare clothes that fit.

Parents Evening

We hope you all have appointments with your child's key carer for parents evening on Tuesday November 6th. These appointments are 10 minute slots to discuss your child's progress and look at their development folder. It is quite a social and relaxing occasion and hope that you can all make it.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Leah Taylor on the safe arrival of her baby sister Poppy. Best wishes to the whole family.

October Birthdays



Happy birthday to:

Evie Maiden 1yr on the 2nd
Jack Leftley 2yrs on the 10th
Laoise Paine 2 yrs on the 10th
Saif Hussain 3yrs on the 1st
Henrienne Gordon 3yrs on the 4th
Rheya Dharwar 4yrs on the 5th
Leon Best 4 yrs on the 19th
Freddie Grant 5yrs on the 26th

Regards

Janet and team