



NEWSLETTER

September 2008

Dear Parents,

Welcome to our October Newsletter. At last summer has reached England and we have managed to have some lovely times outside and not had to run in when it has started raining.

Baby Unit

The babies and younger Babies have really enjoyed spending time together this month and have therefore managed to make twice the amount of mess during messy activities.



We would like to start by welcoming Joshua M and Oliver B to the Baby Unit. Joshua has been with us a few weeks and really enjoys coming to Nursery. Oliver has been coming the last couple of weeks and is settling well (I'm sure his Big Brother Ben, from Pre-School has told him all about it).

Pasta play has become one of the children's favourite games and we love to hear it rattling and spread it all over the carpet. Luckily it is not cooked and therefore is quite easy to tidy up. It does feel a bit funny though when we sit or walk on it.

As part of our Jungle theme this month, we have made Lion masks that are on display in the room. We are giving the older babies many more opportunities to choose their creative activities so they used sticking and dabber paints on the Lions and on animal pictures.



Last but not least we would like to say goodbye to Ethan, Lewis and Archie S who have moved through to Toddler Room. We are looking forward to hearing about everything they have been doing when we see them in the garden.

Emma and Jan Nicole and Yvonne

Toddlers

First we would like to welcome Ethan, Lewis and Archie S into toddler room and hope they enjoy being in Toddlers and have lots of fun with us.



This month the topic has been in the jungle so we have been sticking, painting and colouring lots of jungle animal pictures. We made lots of different coloured handprints, which we put together into our big display board. The Toddler children got to choose which animals they wanted, they did ask for a monkey but we had to make do with an orang-utan as we had lots of orange hand-prints left!

Our book of the month has been 'Hide and Seek'. We painted pictures of the different animals in the book and enjoyed learning how to play in the garden. The children were very good at hiding but kept forgetting to close their eyes when it was their turn to seek.

The dolls and pushchairs have been a particular favourite this month. The children have put their babies in their pushchairs and have been all over the place including the beach, shops and the moon.



Outside we have had a great time playing with our new garden toys. We have been practising throwing and catching the new wobbly balls and kicking the new footballs.

We have been learning some new Nursery Rhymes and our favourite at the moment is one about a snake eating us!! Luckily we wriggle out and get out alive.

We are also still enjoying our trips to the library where Georgina the librarian reads us some lovely stories and we get to choose some new ones to bring back to Nursery to read.

Sam, Claudia and Steff

Pre-School

'Running through the Jungle what do you see a tiger, a crocodile or a great bumble bee'

We have been looking at animals that live in the jungle. We created a display with animals that we may find.



We used our hands to create parrots with wings flying through the air. We used dabber paints to create multi-coloured snakes and grey paint to create 3-dimensional elephants using kitchen towel rolls and remembered to stick on a long trunk for squirting water.

We turned into Monkeys and Tigers after decorating masks using pencils and crayons and went all over the room scaring anyone that came through.

We have started French again this term, it is on a Friday morning. This means a different selection of children can get to participate in the learning. We are starting by learning how to say 'hello' and 'goodbye'.

We have created a real live photography studio in our role-play area and have been using cameras to take photographs of each other. These will be displayed in our Photographers Photo Gallery very soon.

We are very pleased to welcome Joshua, B, Harry, Florence, Ruby, Benjamin and Korbyn into Pre-School. They all look very smart in their new Pre-School uniform.



Jen, Heather and Shakila

Forthcoming topics

During October, the children throughout the Nursery will be talking about Space. Also as it is Halloween the children will be preparing for the party. More details on this to follow.



Forthcoming dates

- 3rd October is Jeans for Genes Day
- 31st October Fancy dress Halloween Party
- 5th November Nursery Photographer

Reminders

Tea-towels

I would like to remind you that we are still selling the Positive Steps 2007/2008 tea towels as created by all the children who have attended during this period. They are a bargain at £4.95 each and make great Christmas present as well as being cherished as a childhood memory. Please see Jill or Jen if you are interested or sign up on the sheet outside Baby Room.

Post Box

A few parent's have been taking advantage of our new Post box, please continue to put any mail you have into the box and it will be posted for you.



Staff

I would like to take this opportunity to confirm which staff are working in each age group. I know there has been some confusion over the last few weeks and I would like to clear this up.

Baby Room

Emma Harris – Room Leader
Emily Priest – Nursery Nurse

Older Baby Room

Nicole Deans – Room Leader
Yvonne Parkinson – Nursery Nurse

Toddler Room

Sam Perry – Room Leader
Claudia Powell – Nursery Nurse
Steff Hall – Nursery Assistant

Pre-School

Jen Behenna – Deputy Manager and Room Leader
Heather Bradshaw – Nursery Nurse
Shakila Banu – Nursery Nurse

Kitchen

Sharon Chetram – Cook

Also within Stokenchurch is Head Office you are also likely to see around

Paul Clarke – Managing Director
Michelle Richardson – Operations Manager
Jeanette Brinton – Administration Manager
Karen Gowen-Jackson -Administrator
Ron Barratt – Cleaner and Maintenance

As you have probably noticed there are a couple of names missing from the list.

Lisa Francis, who has been working in our toddler Room since January, has decided to relocate to one of new sites in Maidenhead. Lisa has been visiting the new site by the Vanwall Business Park during September and has decided she is ready for something new and the experience of being at a brand new setting. Lisa will be popping back one day next week so that she can say goodbye to the staff and children. I am sure we will all still see Lisa visiting from time to time.

Jan Johnstone has been with us since January in our Baby Unit. She has decided that the long hours associated with childcare are a bit much for her and has decided to take a few months off. She is starting with a lovely holiday before spending time with her grandchildren. I know Jan will miss the babies very much and will be back to visit from time to time. I know she is hoping to come to the Christmas party in December.

I am sure you will join me in wishing Lisa and Jan all the best for the future.



I would like to take this opportunity to re-assure you all that Positive Steps Nursery – Stokenchurch is continuing to grow and will remain offering the good standard of care and

education that we always have. The loss of these 2 members of staff does not affect the ratios as

dictated by Ofsted and your child will continue to be well cared for. If you have any concerns about the changes throughout the Nursery, please do not hesitate to come and speak to me at Nursery or call me 01494 484737.

Some children will have new Key Carers and if your child is affected, you will receive a letter in due course.

As always we are interested in any suggestions you may have for the newsletter and other things you would like to see in it. Please pass your ideas onto a member of the team.

Kind Regards,

Jill and the Stokenchurch Team.



Last but not least . . .

We would like to wish the following children a very happy birthday, as they will be celebrating in September:

Charlie Archie S
Jacob Ethan
Lewis Florence
Charlotte S Jimmy



Happy Birthday

