



December Newsletter

Pre-School Room

In the pre school room we have been very busy learning about colours and light and dark by creating dark dens outside. We have also done some shadow drawing using torches and exploring how shadows are created. We celebrated Bonfire Night creating firework pictures, we also made smores and hot chocolate on the campfire. We took part in a science experiment using a sparkler in a potato. The sparkler lit up the potato which the children thought was magic!

We also celebrated Diwali through creating Rangoli patterns and creating Henna hands. This helps our Understanding of the World and British Values through learning about different cultures.

We also enjoyed learning about mixing colours through mixing paint on the tuff tray.

Toddler Room

The toddlers have been exploring colours through mixing paints and learning about how different colours are formed. We have played with different coloured playdough and developed our fine motor skills. We have also taken part in shadow drawing talking about light and dark.

In our tuff tray we have been exploring our story of the month "Owl Babies", talking about animals that come out in the dark.

We also celebrated Diwali creating Rangoli patterns.

Baby Room.

The baby room have been exploring colours through our colour treasure baskets, discovering objects that are blue, green and purple. We have enjoyed playing with different coloured playdough using our fine motor skills to pull and pinch the playdough. We have used our imagination skills through creating firework pictures and exploring colours in our art work.

We also celebrated Remembrance Day finding Poppies in the sand pit.

Important Dates

- 6th Dec - Main Area Nativity
- 16th Dec - Christmas Party Day
- 11th December - Christmas Dinner.
- 24th December Nursery closes at 4pm.
- Nursery reopens 2nd Jan 25
- School term restarts Monday 6th Jan 25

Book & Rhyme of the month

The Preschool will be reading the book "Elmer's Christmas".

The toddler Room will be reading the book "That's not my Reindeer".

The Baby Room will be singing the rhyme: "Here we go round the Christmas Tree".

Christmas Party.

Our children's Christmas party is scheduled to take place on Friday 16th December at 2pm at the nursery and will finish at 4pm. If your child does not attend that day they will need to be dropped off at nursery at 2pm and collected by 4pm. There will be party food, games and lots of fun! If you have not replied yet please can you Claire or Sam know so that we have an idea for catering.

Christmas Opening Hours.

The nursery will close for Christmas on Friday 24th December at 4.00pm, or earlier, if all the children have gone home and will remain closed throughout Christmas week reopening as normal on **Thursday 2nd January 2025**.

Christmas Card Post Box

This year we will have a Christmas Post Box in the Christmas Post Office! If your child would like to send cards to their friends we will encourage them to post them in the post box, to be collected and delivered by our post person.

Reindeer Run.

The children in Pre school will be taking part in a sponsored Reindeer Run in aid of Overgate Hospice on 18th December. If your child does not attend on Wednesdays but you would like to sponsor a staff member, please speak to a member of the pre-school staff.

Birthdays

Henry 2nd Dec
Poppy 3rd Dec
Logan 9th Dec
Amrya 25th Dec

Cold Weather

Please ensure that your child has a named hat and gloves and pair of wellies for outdoor play. If your child attends nursery in their wellies please can we have a pair of indoor shoes to change them into so that they are not wearing dirty wellies indoors.



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Things to do at home this month

Pre-School

The children in the Pre-school room are going to be taking part in Christmas Activities. You can extend your child's learning at home through taking part in activities such as writing a Christmas list for Father Christmas and encouraging your child to draw pictures. You can also read Christmas stories and encourage your child to talk about the story, including talking about the characters and your child's favourite part.

You could talk about kindness at Christmas, about giving to others and how we can be kind to others.

Toddler room

The children are going to be taking part in Christmas activities and reading the story "That's not my Reindeer". At home you could encourage your child to draw on Christmas cards and develop their emergent writing skills. You could bake gingerbread biscuits. Baking activities help to develop many learning skills including mathematics, through weighing, measuring and timing. Understanding the World, through understanding changes when baking the mixture and physical development by using tools to mix the mixture.

We have been learning and singing lots of Christmas songs you can join in at home and develop your child's language skills.

Baby Room

The children in the baby room are going to be exploring Christmas and developing their Communication and Language Skills. You could do this at home by singing Christmas songs and looking at Christmas books, talking about the pictures. You could also make a sensory bin using baubles, tinsel and other Christmas's items to develop your child's sensory skills and introduce new vocabulary. You could also make gloop using corn flour and water and add scents such as ginger to it.

Christmas playdough recipe.

2 cups flour

2 tablespoons vegetable oil

1/2 cup salt

2 tablespoons cream of tartar

Up to 1.5 cups boiling water (adding in increments until it feels just right)

1 teaspoon mint extract.

Mix all together and enjoy!

Next Month

The children in the **pre-school** will be reading "Gruffalo's Child".

The children in the **Toddler room** will be reading "Stick Man".

The **babies** will be singing "I'm a little snowman".

Here we go round the Christmas Tree.

(Sing to the tune of 'Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush')

Here we go round the Christmas tree, The Christmas tree, the Christmas tree. Here we go round the Christmas tree, To add some decorations!

First we put on some round baubles, Some round baubles, some round baubles. First we put on some round baubles, To make our tree so pretty!

Now we can put some tinsel on,

Now we can add some fairy lights,

Then we can put a star on top.
