



Toy Box Day Nursery & Pre-School

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to our first newsletter of 2020.

We hope you have all had a relaxing Christmas and are ready to start the New Year. All the children seemed very happy and excited to see one another again after the Christmas break and for the most part, appear to be settling straight back into nursery life.

Nursery Activities – Babies & Pre-School

Throughout December most activities involved glue, glitter and tinsel as staff and children prepared the nursery for the Festive Season. They were all kept busy making Christmas cards, calendars and various sparkly decorations which added a lovely festive feel to the nursery.

During December the babies had great fun they been developing their physical skills using different sensory materials. They have been exploring shaving foam, corn flour, play dough and sand to which we added glitter, Christmas scents and Christmas colours to, to enhance the experience. They have also listened to Christmas stories and developed their communication and language skills by singing new Christmas songs.

They have also enjoyed baking Christmas biscuits. The children helped to mix the ingredients together, roll out the dough and stamped out the biscuits.

The Pre-School children have been using flour in a variety of ways. They have been making marks and attempting to write their names. They also used their imagination to make buns; counting how many scoops they had developing their mathematical skills. They have also been extremely busy creating their own baubles, calendars and Christmas cards! The children have been using a variety of creative resources to create their very own masterpieces. This has helped the children's imaginative skills, motor skills and language skills. The children have been exploring the new tablet, with various educational games. This has helped the children develop technological skills and learn about cause and effect.

The children showed an interest in the Gingerbread Man story, so they have created and decorated their own gingerbread. During this activity the children were able to repeat familiar words and phrases from the story.

This month our activities will be based on The Three Little Pigs Story.

Our Rhyme of the Month for the Babies is:
Our Rhyme of the Month for the Pre-School is:
Our Book of the Month for the Pre-School is:

“Row, Row, Row Your Boat”
“Five Little Snowmen”
“The Three Little Pigs”

Chinese New Year

On the 24th January, the children will be celebrating the Chinese New Year (Year of the Rat). They will be involved in activities related to the New Year and will be trying different Chinese foods.

Children's Nativity and Christmas Party

A huge thank you to all our parents/ carers, who helped to make our Nativity such an enjoyable and memorable event. The costumes were really lovely and considering the ages of the children, they all did very well. Staff put a lot of time, effort and hard work into rehearsals with the children and the end result spoke for itself.

Thank you also to all our parent/ carers for all the lovely feedback from our nursery party. We are delighted that everybody including parents, carers, children and staff all enjoyed it equally.

Christmas Jumper Day

This year our Christmas Jumper Day raised £64.20 for the Crackerjacks Children's Trust. A massive thank you, to all those parents/ carers and children who participated in the event.

Nursery Bears

We have two nursery bears which the children will be taking it in turns to bring one of the bears home. Each bear has a journal book with a letter inside for parents/carers with ideas of how the bear can be used at home. Parents/carers can write in the bear's book and can also send pictures to nursery to be put in the book showing us the fun activities they have been up to.

Staff Member of the Month

The winner of staff member of the month for December is Julie Kendall.

Julie works tirelessly to ensure that the children are provided with wholesome, nutritional and tasty meals and snacks every day. It is really lovely to see that so many of you have shown your appreciation for her, especially with the delicious Christmas Dinner she prepared last month.

So well done and congratulations to Julie who will now receive a £20 gift voucher of her choice.

Thank you also to all parents/ carers who took the time to vote. It means a lot to all the staff that their efforts are recognised and appreciated.

Birthdays

Throughout January we would like to wish a big "Happy Birthday" to the following children:

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|----------|---------------|
| Lizzie E | - 1 year old |
| Eunice W | - 3 years old |
| Ebony | -3 years old |
| Billy L | - 4 years old |
| Zephy D | - 4 years old |
| Ayaan W | - 4 years old |

And Finally

We would like to say a Happy New Year to everybody. We hope 2020 is a good one!

Sam, David, Claire and all the staff at Toy Box Day Nursery