



# January Newsletter

## Pre-School Room

The children in the Pre School enjoyed learning about Christmas throughout December. They had fun making lots of Christmassy things both inside and outside. The children enjoyed developing their mathematical skills by making patterns in the tuff tray and by baking lots of Christmas buns and biscuits, measuring out the ingredients. They made snowflakes and developed their fine motor skills through using scissors to make snips. They also enjoyed playing with different scented playdough such as candy cane playdough and Christmas spice playdough. They have used their measuring skills to wrap presents in the Christmas Post Office.

## Toddler Room.

In the Toddler Room the children have enjoyed taking part in Christmas activities and reading the book "A Snowy Night". They enjoyed learning about the animals and talking about sharing. They took part in lots of Christmas activities such as making cards and calendars as well as baking. They were introduced to new vocabulary such as advent, bauble and description words such as sparkly and shiny.

## Baby Room

During the month of December, the children in the baby room explored a variety of sensory Christmas activities, including exploring the textures and colours of decorations, pretend snow and lots of messy crafts.

They have been singing Christmas rhymes and looking at touch and feel Christmas books such as "That's not my Reindeer".

## Important Dates

- 27th Jan - Breakfast from around the world.
- 22nd Jan - Chinese New Year.
- Half Term - Monday 13th Feb

## Book & Rhyme of the month

Preschool: "Foxes in the Snow" by Jonathan Emmett.  
Toddlers: "Gruffalos Child" by Julia Donaldson..  
Babies: "Baa Baa Black Sheep"

## Snow Action Plan

In the case of heavy snow or ice we will endeavour to open the nursery wherever possible, ensuring the safety of the children and staff. In the event of a closure we will notify you by text and email and our social media.

In the case of heavy snowfall during the day we will contact you via phone to make arrangements for early collection if necessary.

## Warm Coats

Please could we remind you to provide warm coats and outdoor footwear such as wellies as well as a hat and gloves whilst it's cold, because we like to go out in all weathers. This applies to the children in all rooms.

## Coffee Morning and Reindeer Run

Thank you to all who attended the coffee morning. The amount raised combined between the Reindeer Run and the Coffee Morning was a fantastic £512.20. All proceeds are in aid of the Overgate Hospice and will support the amazing work that they do.

## Car parking

Please can be remind parents that parking at the bottom of the drive on the yellow zig zags is illegal between the hours of 8am until 5pm. The zig zags are in place to protect the children arriving and departing the school grounds. We politely ask that you do not park over the neighbours drives and block access for them getting in and out of their drives.

## Birthdays

Alexander 1st  
Bhodi 3rd  
Riley 8th  
Nevaeh 10th  
Nova 16th  
Katherine 20th

## Staff Changes.

We are sad to say goodbye to Molly who is leaving us to go travelling in Australia. We wish her good luck and look forward to seeing lots of pictures of her travels.

We are pleased to welcome Jodie who is joining us to complete her Level 2 qualification. It's an exciting appointment for us, as Jodie previously attended Toy Box as a young child!



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## Things to do at home this month

### Pre-School

The children in Preschool will be reading "Foxes in the Snow". Hopefully we get some snow too! You can talk about foxes and what type of habitat they live in. You could create your own pictures of foxes using fluffy materials.

We are learning about Winter, so you could talk about the weather and examine items covered in frost. You can go for walks and look at the changes to the trees and environment during the Winter. You could make a vegetable soup and encourage your child to help prepare the vegetables talking about them being cut in half or quarters.

It's the RSPB's Big Bird Watch during January so why not look for different birds in the garden. You could even make some bird feeders for them and talk about caring for animals during winter.

### Toddler room

The children in Toddler room are reading the book "The Gruffalo's Child". You can read the story at home and talk about the different characters as well as talking about the rhyming words in the story. Encourage your child's listening skills by missing a word out and see if they can fill the gap.

You could take a walk out into the woods and see the changes in the environment and talk about where the Gruffalo and the other animals in the story live.

Collect some materials from the woods and bring them in for our Gruffalo story sack.

### Baby Room

The children in baby room will be singing "Baa Baa Black Sheep".

Why not sing this at home and maybe introduce some finger or sock puppets for the sheep. Puppets are a great way to develop hand eye coordination.

You can make a story sack with pictures of sheep or use small world models.

Alternatively, why not make your own fluffy sheep with some cotton wool, a great opportunity for sensory exploration.

### I'm a Little Snowman

I'm a little snowman short and fat,  
Here's my scarf and here's my hat.  
When the snow is falling, come and play.  
Build a snowman everyday



### Next Month

The children in the pre school will be reading "One Snowy Night" by Nick Butterworth.  
The children in the Toddler room will be reading "Polar Bear and the Snow Cloud" By Jane Cabrera.  
Babies will be singing "I'm a little snowman"

### Baa Baa Black Sheep

Baa, baa, black sheep, have you any wool?  
Yes, sir, yes, sir, three bags full  
One for the master, and one for the dame  
And one for the little boy who live down the lane.

