

March 2019 Newsletter

Toy Box Day Nursery & Pre-School

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to our March newsletter bringing you up to date with events here at Toy Box over the coming month.

Pre-School and Baby Room Activities

Baby Room

This month the babies have been exploring mark making, they have used a variety of objects in paint such as brick, sponges and brushes, they have also been very busy using various tools to make marks within the playdough.

This month the babies have also been very creative, using yoghurt pots and rice to create their own instruments to make various sounds.

Pre-School Room

This month while the weather has been unusually good the Pre-School children have been making the most of the outdoor area and have been busy developing their physical skills, spending time taking part in obstacle courses and having bike races.

The Pre-School children have also had lots of fun getting very messy exploring in shaving foam and mud and have been walking in paint and looking at all of the marks they have been making.

The children have also enjoyed taking part in food tasting activities, exploring a wide range of fruits and deciding which ones they liked the most!

Our Rhyme of the Month for the Babies is:	“Tiny Turtle”
Our Rhyme of the Month for the Pre-School is:	“Twinkle Twinkle Dinosaur”
Our Book of the Month for the Pre-School is:	“How to Grow a Dinosaur”

World Book Day – Thursday 7th March

To celebrate and mark the occasion of World Book Day on Thursday 7th March we are asking all the children who would normally attend nursery on that day to come to nursery dressed up as a character from their favourite book.

Please do not go to any expense buying materials for costumes. The children themselves are hugely imaginative and given a few basic resources, can come up with some very creative designs.

However, should any parent/carer like assistance with ideas or inspiration please speak to any member of staff and they will be delighted to help.

Comic Relief and Red Nose Day

Red Nose Day will once again be with us on March 15th and staff have already started planning our fundraising events.

Starting on Monday 11th March both children and staff will be taking part in a sponsored “silly dance” all week.

On Friday 15th March we invite all staff and children to come wearing their clothes backwards... something which everyone can easily participate in.

Don't forget to bring a shiny coin for our fundraising bucket!

Sponsor forms are attached to the newsletter. Please help and encourage your child to collect as many sponsors as possible so we can raise a decent sum of money for this worthy cause.

St Patrick's Day Celebrations – Dress in Green – Monday 18th March

To celebrate St Patrick's Day on Monday 18th March all staff and children who would normally attend nursery on a Monday are invited to come to nursery wearing something green.

Julie, our cook, will be serving Irish Stew for lunch followed by a good hearty Irish Rice Pudding. There will also be Irish Soda Bread, which they will have with a variety of toppings for late snack. Other activities planned for the day include listening to Irish music, trying out Irish Dancing as well as making Shamrock biscuits and greetings cards.

World Down Syndrome Day – Thursday 21st March

On Thursday 21st March we will be celebrating World Down Syndrome Day. We will be inviting all children who usually attend nursery on this day to wear brightly coloured or odd socks, giving us the opportunity to discuss things that make us different and all the things that make us special.

Iranian New Year – Thursday 21st March

As we have some children here at nursery who are of Iranian descent we thought it would be nice for them if we celebrate their festival here at nursery on Thursday 21st March.

Throughout the day the children will listen to Persian music, try out Persian dancing, decorate eggs and make Nowruz greetings cards.

Lending Library

We have introduced a new lending library which is located in our entrance lobby. Included in this are a wide range of books, story sacks and also resource bags. Please take time to have a look and to choose something to borrow and sign out to use at home with your children.

Easter Bonnet Competition

As usual Toy Box will be hosting our Easter Bonnet Competition in the lead up to Easter. Every year the entries become more and more imaginative and this year I'm sure will be no exception. However, if you are a new parent/ carer and need a little help with ideas, please see any member of staff and they will be delighted to help inspire you.

Judging will take place on the afternoon of Thursday 18th April. In order to ensure that judging is totally fair and impartial a member of staff from the SOS (Out of School Club) will pick a winner from each age group.

Three winners will be awarded a prize but every child will get a little something, just for taking part.

The results will be announced in our May newsletter.

Exclusion Procedure for Illnesses

For the benefit of our new parent/ carers and a reminder for our existing parent/ carers I am attaching a copy of our Exclusion Procedure for Illnesses.

This document is from the Department of Health and is used in schools and nurseries. In order to minimise the spread of infection throughout the nursery it is very important that we as a setting and parent/ carers adhere to the guidelines.

If you need further clarification on any of the guidelines please speak to Anna or Helen and they will be delighted to answer any queries you may have.

Staff Member of the Month

Although we had quite a few votes this month for our "Staff Member of the Month" award, there is no outright winner so all votes will be rolled over towards next month's award.

A huge thank you to all parents/ carers who take the time to vote. It means a lot to staff to know that their efforts are appreciated.

Staff News

We would like to welcome Sara Marewan to our team who will be joining us early in the month. Sara is a fully qualified level 3 practitioner and is currently studying towards her degree at Huddersfield university and will be working within the Pre-school room.

Birthdays

Throughout March we would like to wish a big "Happy Birthday" to the following children.

Jessica G - 1 year old
Bradley H - 4 years old
Jack C - 4 years old
Ivan A - 4 years old
Noah D - 4 years old

Dates for your Diary

World Book Day Dress-Up Day	- Thursday 7 th March
St Patrick's Day	- Monday 18 th March
Comic Relief and Red Nose Day	- Monday 11 th to Friday 15 th March
World Down Syndrome Day	- Thursday 21 st March
Iranian New Year	- Thursday 21 st March

And Finally

As always a big thank you to all parents/ carers for your continuing support. All your suggestions and input are always welcome and taken seriously. If, however, you do have any queries or worries about any aspect of your child/ children's care or daily routine while at nursery please do not hesitate to speak to Anna or Helen and they will be delighted to address any queries you may have.

Sam, Anna, Helen and all the staff at Toy Box Day Nursery