

The Mulberry Bush Nursery

November 2017 Newsletter

Dear All

Welcome to our November newsletter, please find detailed below lots of information about what we have been doing at Nursery recently and any upcoming events for your diaries.

Christmas Hamper Appeal - We have recently been contacted by Eye Community Centre who would like to work with the local schools and nurseries to fill a number of hampers to distribute to elderly people living on their own and unable to venture out very often. We would like to ask you to bring in a small something to place in the hamper. This could include anything from teabags, soup, pasta, tinned products and Christmas treats!

Children in Need - The week commencing 13th November 2017 we will be helping to raise money for **Children in Need**. We will be enjoying different activities during this week to raise the children's awareness, there will be circle picture creations, going on a bear hunt and a paper duck race. Please also have a go at our 'name the teddy' for 50p ago and enter the Pudsey cake raffle at £1 ago.

Wednesday 15th Nov - dress in spots day for a donation of £1.

Thursday 16th Nov - please bring in a teddy to join us for a teddy bears picnic.

Friday 17th Nov - dress in spots or PJ's for a donation of £1.

Please join in the fun and help us raise as much money as possible.

Change of Details - Please remember to inform us of any change to your personal details such as mobile phone numbers, home telephone numbers and your address, thank you.

Book Man - Please can we remind all parents and carers to leave payment for the goods from the Book Man with someone in the office at the time of ordering them.

Christmas Meal - Please be advised that the menu will be changed on Wednesday 20th December as we will be cooking a traditional Christmas Dinner for the children.

Christmas Parties - Please see dates below for when your child's room will be holding their Christmas Party.

Berries Christmas Play - Tuesday 19th December at 2pm at the Eye Bowls Club. Please speak to Sarah Ellis or Sarah Holmes if you require any further information.

Christmas Cards - you will receive your free proof card over the next few days with a covering letter detailing how to order your child's Christmas cards if you wish. Please be advised there is no obligation to purchase the cards. If you would like to purchase them please return your order and payment to nursery by **MONDAY 20th November**.

Bad Weather - Should severe weather conditions over the winter period force the nursery to close before the usual time of 6pm you will be contacted by the Office to make arrangements to collect your child/ren early. Should conditions be too hazardous to open the nursery we will send out an email to all parents who are able to be contacted in this way and telephone those whom we do not have an email address for. We will also endeavour to contact BBC Radio Suffolk and BBC Radio Norfolk who will read out and/or publish a list of school/nursery closures and put a message on face book.

Staff news - We would like to introduce Sadie Pyett-Reeve who will be joining the team as bank staff, she will be covering within all rooms as required to cover staff holidays.

Application for Reception Places - Please note that if your child is due to start Primary school in September 2018 that the Deadline for applying for a space is 15th January 2018.

First Aid Courses - During the half term holidays we had a First Aid trainer attend the nursery to hold a first aid course for our Holiday Club children. The children had a fantastic time learning and practicing new first aid skills Joe Ellis-Gage is from Mini First Aid Norfolk and runs a variety of courses. Please check out Joe's website www.norfolk.minifirstaid.co.uk or face book page if you are interested in signing up to any of his first aid courses.

Students - We would like to let you know that we currently have two students completing placements with us. Elle joins the nursery on a Tuesday and Wednesday and is due to be with us until the Easter. Tim joins us every other Friday spending time in the Berries gaining experience for his Health and Social care course. Tim will be with us until the end of term.

Vitamins for children - In a recent staff meeting the topic of children's vitamins were covered due to a recommendation from the department of health which we wanted to share with you. The following information has been taken from the NHS choices website as follows

Growing children, especially those who don't eat a varied diet, sometimes don't get enough vitamins A and C. It's also difficult to get enough vitamin D through food alone.

That's why the Department of Health recommends that all children aged six months to five years are given vitamin supplements containing vitamins A, C and D every day.

It's also recommended that babies who are being breastfed are given a daily vitamin D supplement from birth.

Babies who are having more than 500ml (about a pint) of infant formula a day shouldn't be given vitamin supplements because formula is fortified with certain nutrients and no other supplementation is required.

Where can you get baby vitamin drops?

Your health visitor can give you advice on vitamin drops and tell you where to get them. You're entitled to free vitamin drops if you qualify for Healthy Start.

Some supplements that can be bought over the counter in pharmacies contain other vitamins or ingredients. Talk to your pharmacist about which supplement would be most suitable for your child.

For more information please see www.healthystart.nhs.uk

Room news

After School Club/ holiday club- The children have loved being very creative with the lego creating different types of vehicles including space ships. We have also been enjoying Kenetic sand to play with being amazed what we could create with it.

Half term holiday club was a great success again, busy with Halloween and firework crafts, playing tennis and creating our own courts on the playground using chalk. We also enjoyed a visit from a qualified first aid trainer who held a mini first aid course with us! We got stuck in doing resuscitation, practicing the recovery position and learning how to help someone who is choking and how to keep safe. We all received a certificate at the end too.

We are in the process of thinking about what to create for Christmas with lots of cooking ideas and little gifts. We are also looking forward to our film night.

Berries - We have had a very busy time. We began with looking at farms and farm animals, going for a walk up the farm to see what we could see, finding tractor tracks in the mud and tractors, playing with the farm animals in our messy play trays and creating animal print pictures. We have also been talking about autumn and harvest. We made some very yummy hedgehog cakes! We also made some finger print trees, leaf rubbings and salt dough leaves.

We then looked at Halloween and bonfire night, we made some pumpkin pictures and pumpkin shape biscuits. For bonfire night we were very creative designing firework pictures using cut kitchen rolls and splatter painting and some glitter to make them sparkle!

For Remembrance Day, we made Poppy wreaths and poppy pictures using black beans for the centre of the flower. We talked about remembering the soldiers and we watched short clips on the white board. Our PE lessons are going really well, the children are really enjoying them and getting the hang of taking their shoes off and putting them back on again.

We will be busy in the coming weeks for Children in Need! We will be creating some interesting circle pictures, dressing up in spots and wearing our pyjamas to nursery!

We have also been busy making Scottish flags for St. Andrew's day and we baked some Scottish shortbread.

As Christmas is fast approaching we have started to practice our songs for our Christmas concert for you and for our visit to Hartismere place.

Lastly, please can we ask for some family photos of you all so we can update our family display board.

Buds 2 - The children have enjoyed lots of different activities over the last few weeks. We started off with The Harvest Festival, the children really liked making wholemeal bread rolls, helping weigh the ingredients and knead the dough. We also made our own vegetable soup, the children helped peel and cut the vegetables with child safe equipment and enjoyed eating this for our snack in the afternoon. We also had a builders tray full of soil, vegetables and gardening tools for the children to explore. The children took part in different crafts such as; potato printing, mark making with carrots, still life vegetable pictures, tractor paintings and using corn on the cobs as rolling pins in the paint.

Our next topic was The Seasons. The children made seasonal trees with different colours to represent the different seasons. We explored ice blocks with flowers, herbs and different coloured leaves inside, the children also helped make seasonal sensory bottles. We painted pictures with coloured ice cubes, threaded leaves and also took part in weather yoga! The children really enjoyed all of these activities..

We went onto Dinosaurs. The children made hand print dinosaurs, making dinosaur skeleton pictures with cotton buds. Next we made dinosaur poop (brown playdough). We made frozen dinosaur eggs, the children used different tools to try and hatch the dinosaurs from the eggs. They also made dinosaur stomp pictures, and made dinosaur fossil biscuits. Our next topic was Friendships. We talked about our friends and family and drew pictures of these people. We made friendship bracelets, and made people shaped biscuits. The children also took part in team games outside and we read the story, Sharing A Shell. Next was the topic London. The children all really enjoyed this activity and some of the children talked about when they have visited London with their family. We made Lollipop guardsmen, Queens collages, London taxi collage pictures, coloured in red post boxes and made Big Ben clocks. We also read a story about when Peppa Pig visited London and the Queen.

We had a day of Diwali and the rest of the week we looked at Autumn. For Diwali we explored different coloured risotto rice in a builders tray, decorated hands pretending it was henna and made elephant shaped biscuits which we also decorated with different coloured icing pens. For Autumn we made autumn playdough, this consisted of cinnamon scented brown playdough, orange scented orange playdough and also red playdough. We made leaf rubbing pictures, we collected

some of the leaves whilst on a walk to the farm. We also made yummy apples crumbles! We moved on to Halloween next. We liked this activity and some of the children talked about dressing up to go trick or treating! We used apples cut in half to make pumpkin shaped pictures, we painting our hands black and printed them onto the paper to make spiders, the children liked sticking the googly eyes on their spiders! Some of the children helped dye pasta shapes, we dyed bow shaped pasta black to make them look like bats and also dyed penne pasta orange and rice green! We explored spiders, bats and skeletons in orange jelly and made cotton wool ghosts. Last week we took part in Bonfire Night activities. We made a giant firework picture to use as our backing for our display! We dipped chocolate fingers in melted chocolate and then sprinkles to make them look like sparklers. We made rockets, made splatter paintings and marble rolling picture with LOTS of glitter!! And also made a bonfire picture using strips of brown paper for the logs and yellow and red paint for the flames. This week in Buds we are doing about Robots and Remembrance Day. For Robots we have made robot collage pictures using different coloured cut out pieces of paper and made robots with the playdough and our large nuts and bolts. We are also going to be using the Beebot, dancing like robots, making robots out of junk modelling and building robots with the duplo blocks. On Friday we will be taking part in Remembrance Day activities, we will be making poppy biscuits and making hand print poppies.

Our topics before Christmas are; A Week Of Julia Donaldson Stories (The Gruffalo, Stick Man, Room On The Broom, What The Ladybird Head and The a Snail and The Whale), A week of nursery rhymes (Twinkle Twinkle, Humpty Dumpty, Incy Wincy Spider, I'm A Little Teapot, Baa Baa Black Sheep), Nature and St.Andrews Day, Light and Dark and we are doing Christmas over the last two weeks before breaking up for Christmas.

Baby Buds - Our baby buds have had a busy few months exploring many activities, a lot of our babies, are now beginning to learn to be more independent by pulling themselves up and starting to stand and walk. We have been encouraging a lot of this, by setting out different soft play, both indoors and outside. The children loved exploring the soft play. This term we have had different themes running through our activities, we have been exploring our senses, where we had herb and spice painting, the children loved smelling the different paints, then we also explored foil painting, and fruit exploration, the baby buds smelt the fruit and explored their texture. Within the room we have had the potato head interactive boards which has been a success, they have loved placing the facial features on the potato, and finding out where they go, they love to take the parts of and replace them many times.

We looked at harvest this term too, we went to the farm for a walk, and explored small world play with hay, and farm animals. The babies enjoyed making bread hedgehogs, and getting creative making scarecrow faces. After this we then looked at autumn, we used leaves in a lot of our art and messy play. We did leaf printing and made many cute autumn creatures. We carried on autumn for an extra week but this time looked at the colours of autumn, we had a different coloured tuff spot each day, the babies really seemed to enjoy this, and the older babies began to recognise the colours were the same. Following on from this we then did a week looking at the rainbow, we had fun exploring another five different colours, but we also enjoyed painting with these colours, and making rainbows. During this week we also had snack that were rainbow kebabs and we chose our different coloured fruit for our snack. We have also looked at the book ten little fingers and ten little toes, we learnt about different cultures were we tried Chinese food for our snack, the babies loved this food!, we played with different skin toned play-dough, and made hand and foot prints. We enjoyed looking at the book, and listening to the story.

This term we will be looking at the main celebrations, and looking at winter. We will make pumpkin biscuits and create mini monster hand prints for Halloween, for fireworks night we are making chocolate sparklers, and creating different fireworks pictures using florescent paint, or chalk, we will look at remembrance day, and create many camouflage pictures with different painting techniques, such as cling film, tin foil and sponges. We shall be participating in an

obstacle course using soft play and balls. This will really help develop our physical skills. We will also be doing many activities for children in need, and exploring spots! And having a teddy bears picnic, In other weeks We shall be looking at different ways to paint, and making a large painting, using different parts of our body by standing on it and crawling over it, we will be getting a bit messy! we look forward to listening to different winter/Christmas stories, and doing activities linking to that specific story. We will be adapting our potato heads to make them festive potato heads, the children can look forward to making them up as Santa, reindeer, and many different characters. We will also be having an interactive Christmas tree board, where they will be able to decorate their own Christmas tree, taking baubles off and on as much as they like. We look forward to all the fun activities planned for this term, and do remember to keep sending in the photos of the lovely activities they do at home too, for their learning journey.

Term Time Only Children -Term finishes Friday 22nd December 2017 and begins again on Friday 5th January 2018

Dates for your Diary (also available on the website)

Event	Date
Children in Need week	W/C 13th November
Christmas Jumper week in aid of save the children	W/C 11th December
Babies Christmas Party	Monday 11th December 9.45am - 11.15am
After School Club Christmas Film night	Monday 11th December 4-6
Buds 2 Christmas Party	Thursday 20th December @ 10 - 11.30am
Berries Christmas Party	Thursday 14th December @ 1.15- 3.30pm
The Mulberry Bush Christmas Dinner	Wednesday 20th December
Nursery Closes for Christmas	Friday 22nd December 2017
Nursery Opens	Tuesday 2nd January 2017
Term Time Only Children Return to Nursery	Friday 4th January 2012