

Dear Families,



What a fun filled start to the year it has been. The children had a great time in January going out and exploring the local community, including going to the Library. The children loved the trips on the Bus to Romsey, exploring the Town and even visiting Romsey Abbey.

In Team news, last month saw Sarah-Jayne join us from our Chilworth Nursery as a Nursery Assistant in Babies on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Annual fee increases will take place from 1st April 2018 and Chrissie will be working hard to calculate your new fees during February. Fees will increase by 3% (on average 19p per hour) and the Meals & Consumables Charge for Grant funded children will increase by 4p per hour. This year we will be sending the new Fee Information to you by email. If you haven't received your email by 28th February, please let me know. Ideally we would like all our families to pay by direct debit. Please pick up a direct debit form from me next time you are in the Nursery.

Finally, we want our children to enjoy outdoor play and experiences whatever the weather. Please bring them in with appropriate clothing for the 'Great British weather'. To support your child making the most of the outdoors, please may I ask you to bring in a pair of wellies/outdoor shoes and a pair of indoor shoes or slippers to change into. Outdoor shoes need to be suitable for walking, climbing and splashing in puddles whilst also keeping little feet warm (oversize or ill-fitting wellies can pose a hazard). Please remember too, to label all items of clothing, including footwear. Many thanks.

Best wishes

Becky McFarlane
Nursery Manager

Community Singing

Marie our Music Ambassador has been working hard to develop music with the children and we have community singing in the lobby as a whole Nursery twice a week. This is always popular with all the children as they practise their dance moves as well as singing and joining in with all the actions.

If you would like any of the words for these or the Boogie Mites songs then let us know. You can also buy the Boogie Mites CD from the Yellow Dot website. To further support music we have some new Nursery Rhyme Home Learning bags. If you would like to borrow one then please speak to a member of the Team.



Dates for your Diary

- **EYFS Open Evening**
20th February 2018
- **Sports Relief (Red Nose Day)**
24th March 2018
- **Parent Consultations**
9th April 2018
- **Africa Week**
Week commencing 16th April
- **Photographer**
18th April 2018

Babies

For most of the Babies this was their first Christmas experience so during January we built on this by exploring gift wrap. The Babies filled, emptied and transported items in big and small gift bags, had large pieces of wrapping paper to hide in, scrunch up and shake, boxes to fill and climb into and they used sticky back plastic and double sided sticky tape to make collages with ripped wrapping paper and gift bows. Through this the children also explored a variety of colours, patterns and textures which led us on to more sensory experiences such as exploring paints.



Toddlers

Throughout January, the Toddlers have been practising colour matching using pom-poms, cotton reels, pegs and different size tweezers and plugs. They have also shown an interest in construction so we have incorporated this into our builders tray, with construction materials and diggers for them to explore as well as looking at different books about types of vehicles. This month we will begin to look at size both inside and outside.

Transition

Last month the children in Transition were thinking about Winter. We explored different objects in ice, feeling the cold and waiting for the ice to melt. We also explored our version of snow, which was a mixture of flour, cornflour, salt and oil. This is a variation on making our own play dough which the children always love doing. We have started to explore feelings with the children and have been reading 'Frog is Sad'. We have also looked at different facial expressions by looking in the mirror and have been playing an emotions fishing game.



Kindergarten

During January the Kindergarten children have been talking about their Christmas experiences at home. They were very excited to tell us about all the different lights they have seen over Christmas and we followed this up with a provocation around light and dark. The children have been exploring fairy lights and torches, building tents and dens inside and using our coloured torches outside. We have also been reading books such as 'Katie and the Starry Night' which inspired us to attempt all the different shades of blue from the Van Gogh painting featured in the book. We intend to go on a dark walk with torches and teach the children why wearing a High Visibility Jacket is important. We will also be exploring more colours and how to mix them to make them darker and lighter shades!

