

Dear Families,



A warm welcome to December's newsletter and that special time of year again that we all love so much.

Thank you to all the families who attended our Parent Consultations, they are an invaluable way for us to work together to support your children. I hope you found them helpful and informative.

Another big thank you for continuing to support our Charity fundraising events and helping us raise a fantastic £xxx for Children In Need!

Autumn as well as some of the other seasonal events such as Bonfire Night and Diwali triggered the Team into presenting all sorts of fantastic learning experiences during November. The children used lots of sparkly stars and glitter to create their own firework night skies. They also enjoyed a Diwali tea together when we talked about the different flavours and spices in our Asian foods.

Please remember to reconfirm your eligibility every 3 months at www.childcarechoices.gov.uk if you wish to continue to claim the 30 hours grant funding for 3 and 4 year olds or if you are using Tax Free Childcare to pay your Nursery fees. If you have any questions about this, please contact Chrissie our Finance Manager.

There is a festive buzz in the whole Nursery as we begin our Christmas preparations. As we all share in the excitement which builds at this time of year, it's wonderful to hear the Christmas spirit ringing through the Nursery.

Best wishes and Merry Christmas

Lynne Carrigan
Nursery Manager



Home Learning Bags

We are passionate about fostering strong links between Nursery and home as it helps the children feel more settled and secure. Some of the bags are designed to enable you to bring a little bit of Nursery into your home to help your children become familiar with the things that might be a little different.

There are also Home Learning Bags designed to support children through those tricky emotional and developmental stages such as the arrival of a new sibling or potty training. You can find the bags in the entrance hall; we would be delighted for you to borrow them whenever you wish.

Dates

- **Christmas Nativity**
11th December 2pm
- **Christmas Jumper Day**
15th December
- **Winter Solstice**
21st December
- **Hanukkah**
24th December
- **Christmas Closure:**
22nd December 6pm
- **Re-open**
Tuesday 2nd January.

Babies

The Babies have had a wonderful time exploring natural resources using their senses. They have also been developing their muscles rolling balls and crawling and climbing on the soft play. Moving into the festive season, the children will be continuing to explore treasure baskets but these will be Christmas treasure baskets with lots of bright, glittery and sparkly objects to discover and explore.



Toddlers

In November we have been looking at different ways of making fireworks, using cardboard tubes, bright colours and adding sparkle using glitter. We have been exploring our community and enjoying walking through the leaves and looking for bugs. In December we are excited to offer the children lots of Christmas crafts. There will be a range of experiences, all of which, as well as being great fun, help to develop the skills children need later for writing.



Transition

During November the children in Transition have been continuing to build on their Autumn experiences. We have been exploring pumpkins using our senses. We talked about sizes and textures. We have also been talking about colours using light and dark and focusing on the primary colours. We created lots of artwork based on fireworks we also used the torches to explore in the dark. We have been using various resources for printing and talking about shapes which will continue during patterns at Christmas.



Kindergarten

We have been so lucky to have Matt from our Nature Nursery accompany us during November, enhancing our community experiences and giving us wonderful play opportunities. The children have had a fantastic new educational programme uploaded to the Kindergarten computer called Discovery which has opened up a fabulous way of researching current topics and gaining new knowledge. In November the children also enjoyed the bright lights of Bonfire Night and shared their experiences as well as enjoying sparklers in the garden. This helped the children to understand and manage risks. We are very proud of our current display boards which show all the wonderful experiences we have had and the new knowledge we have gained. Please pop in and see them. The children are now preparing for the Nativity and we are so excited to share this special time with you.

