



November 2009 Newsletter

Staff News

Staff News

We would all like to congratulate Natalie on her recent good news; Natalie and her boyfriend John have just become engaged and are expecting their first baby in March. Natalie and John will also be moving into their new house in time for Christmas - a busy and very exciting time for you both! Congratulations Natalie and John and best wishes from everyone.

Also congratulations to Melanie on her new flat!!

Siobhan has now started her SVQ Level II training and will be working towards this over the next year.

Up Coming Training

In November staff will be attending the following training courses:

Melanie will be attending Curriculum for Excellence - Numeracy Across Learning from Experiential Play. This training course will explore the numeracy experiences and outcomes, differentiation and progression within the outcomes, how staff can support the use of resources in a numeracy rich environment. Melanie will also have opportunities to discuss with other professionals ideas to develop problem solving skills and activities to develop independent and collaborative learning. This training course was booked to support our implementation of Curriculum for Excellence as identified as a priority in our Improvement Plan - the Improvement Plan is displayed on the Sleepy Room window.

All staff will be attending in house training on Observation and Assessment - this will support new planning and paperwork and will be delivered by Kim, Elizabeth and Jean (Peripatetic Teacher).

Staff Holidays

Natalie will be on holiday from Monday 16th - Friday 20th November.

Room News

Baby Room - The staff will be supporting children to develop their walking skills and mobility. They will be using the garden and local walks to support this, as well as walking aids within the playroom. You could support this at home by encouraging your child to practice taking steps and lots of praise and encouragement. The younger babies should be allowed to spend some time supervised lying on their tummies as this is essential as a first step towards crawling and becoming mobile.

Tiny Tots - Following discussion with parents and observations of the children we have identified Cooking as our focus for learning. The children will be baking, visiting the local shops to buy the resources and baking, our sensory tray will have mixing materials. We will also be using the front garden to develop and support physical skills and this will also allow the children to practice putting on their own jackets and coats and fastening zips to develop their independence and taking care of themselves.

Tiger Tots - The children have been talking about Asda, and can identify "A" for Asda, so we have turned our role play into a supermarket. The children will have opportunities to select items and fill their trolley or basket, weigh food and use the till and pretend money. You could continue this learning at home by talking about items you are buying and allowing your child to make some choices.

3 - 5's - The children have decided they would like to learn about different types of transport, and have created a "Garage" in their role play. We will be visiting our local garage Saracen Motors, and the transport museum to support learning. We will also visit the library to find books about transport. At home you could talk about the different types of transport you use, for coming to nursery or going on holiday, and read transport or travel themed stories at bed time. We will also be creating an Autumn interest table, you could look for acorns, chestnuts and other pieces of nature when you are out and about and bring them in and we can talk about them.

Eco Committee Members??

We have been reviewing our progress towards achieving our Silver Award, and the next step is to form a new committee, as our members have left to go to school. Elizabeth will be speaking with the 3 - 5's regarding becoming involved, and if you and your child are particularly interested and have 30 minutes each term to spare please speak with Elizabeth about the committee.

Nursery Monitoring

We are currently monitoring **Child at the Centre 5** - Provision of Early Education and **9** - Leadership, and **Care Standards 9** - Involving the Community, **10** - Involving other Services and **14** Well Managed Service. Thank you to those who have already returned your Questionnaire, if you have not yet done so please pop it into the Suggestions Box in Reception, as your views and comments are a very important part of finding out how the Nursery is performing and we use them to monitor our work and help us to improve areas that are important to you and your child.

Management Update

Kim - This month I have been preparing for our Inspection, consulting parents and staff to inform our Self Evaluation Returns, our Inspection will be sometime during November.

I have been holding Annual Appraisals with the whole team, identifying individual strengths and areas to develop during the next 12 months, linking this closely with our Improvement Plan. As identified in our Improvement Plan, I am also trialing a new Supervision system. The aim is that each term I will hold a Supervision Session with each staff member, focusing on day to day practice, areas for development identified during the staffs Annual Appraisal and our Improvement Plan, to create a clear link with our aims and how we work towards this on a continuous cycle.

I have also been continuing to support the transition into Curriculum for Excellence by holding meetings with the 3 - 5 team, Elizabeth and Jean, to discuss progress and our next steps. Currently we are looking at methods of sharing learning intentions with children and families, and laying the foundations for Medium Term planning and weekly planning.

Elizabeth - I have been monitoring the staff planning and individual folders, ensuring that staff are making best use of new planning systems, particularly that they are incorporating parental feedback into planning and using your views and observations of your child to inform future activities and experiences for them.

I also covered the Tiger Tots room while Nicola was off, and found this a great opportunity to get to know some of the children better and enjoyed working closely with them.

Children's Nursery Uniforms

If you wish to place an order please see Kim or Elizabeth. The wearing of the Uniform is completely optional and is for parents / carers to choose if they would like their children to wear it! The costs are:

Size / Age Range	Baby-Grow	T-Shirt	Sweatshirt
6wks - 1 year	4.50		
1 - 5 years		5.00	
1 - 5 years			7.00
Multipack 1 (2 x baby grow + 1 x sweatshirt)		-	£14.50 **save £1.50**
Multipack 2 (2 x t shirt + 1 x sweatshirt)		-	£15.50 **save £1.50**
Multipack 3 (3 x baby grow + 2 x sweatshirt)		-	£25.00 **save £2.50**
Multipack 4 (3 x t shirt + 2 x sweatshirt)		-	£26.50 **save £2.50**

Dates for Your Diary

- Guy Fawkes** - Thursday 5th November 2009
- Parents' Day** - Thursday 3rd December 2009 3 - 6pm
- Christmas Info**
- Christmas Party** - Friday 18th December 2009 12 - 3pm **All children are invited**
- Pre School Holidays** - Friday 18th December 2009 - Tuesday 5th January 2010
- Nursery Closure** - Thursday 24th December 2009 at 5pm - Monday 4th January 2010 at 7.45am

Thank you for your continued support!

3 - 5's Visit to Transport Museum Tuesday 27th October

