



## Nursery News April/May 2018

I hope everyone has had an enjoyable Easter and that your children are excited about their third term at nursery.

### Nursery Themes This Month

As already outlined our April topic will aim to develop the children's interest and knowledge in People Who Help Us and in May we will begin to explore minibeasts/summer in the garden.



### Personal, Social and Emotional Development focus

- We are encouraging the children to persevere with a task and take pleasure in their achievements.
- The children are also being encouraged to engage and work co-operatively with each other towards an end goal.
- Our children will be encouraged to expand their social circle, welcoming other children to engage in an activity of mutual interest.
- Developing independence continues to be a focus which includes pouring their own drink for snack, putting on coats/shoes/wellingtons, zipping coats, etc.
- Please help your child to be independent and fully ready for P1 by:-
  1. Encouraging them to put on their own clothes at home
  2. Attend to themselves at the toilet
  3. Put on/take off their coats
  4. Bringing wellingtons to school and shoes they can manage (eg. Velcro closing!!)
  5. Hanging up coats, bags, clothes etc.

### Physical Development focus

- We are encouraging the children to move with increasing confidence, control and co-ordination. Our Super Hero day obstacle course will be one way of further developing these skills!
- We will continue to provide a range of activities to challenge and extend the children's fine motor skills and develop hand/eye co-ordination.
- We will be encouraging them and guiding them with their pencil grip through a range of fun activities.

### Early Mathematical Experiences

- We are continuing to encourage the children to rote count to ten and touch count objects during their play. For example, counting how many beads/bricks they have used; playing dice games and engaging in number rhymes, such as '5 little speckled frogs'.
- This month there will be a focus on length where children will be encouraged to use the words 'long' and 'short' when comparing two objects.
- Our **shape** focus is rectangle, for example, a fire engine, our paper for drawing on, the container we planted our runner beans in etc.



### The World Around Us

- The children thoroughly enjoyed planting runner beans and potatoes, especially when one bag of compost was called 'Jack's Magic'!! Now they regularly observe and talk about the growth of the stems and leaves. In the coming weeks we will be planting lettuce, radishes, rocket, spinach and sunflowers.



- This month we will be encouraging the children to hold hands with a grown up when walking out from nursery to their car as part of Road Safety and People Who Help Us. They will also be hearing about the lollipop lady/man, firefighters, nurse, doctor, dentist, etc.

### Parent Questionnaire

We would really appreciate your feedback on your child's nursery experience. The questionnaire will be placed in your child's drawer and will only take a few minutes to complete. We would ask that you send it back as soon as possible in the envelope provided. You do not need to put your name on the questionnaire and we would appreciate your honesty!

Thank You.



### Reminders



- ⊕ Please return book bags on a Tuesday.
- ⊕ You will receive a questionnaire in your child's book bag. We need to consolidate the responses of this and the previous Big Bedtime Read questionnaire and send the results to the Education Authority, so please return it in your child's book bag on Tuesday. Thank you!
- ⊕ Don't forget about our sponsored event! We are sure you have heard about the increasing financial strain placed on all schools due to an extremely limited budget, so we would really appreciate your support!



- **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> April**- Special visit from Mr Hullabaloo. Normal school arrangements.
- **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> April**- Sponsored Event- SUPER HERO DAY. The children can come dressed as a Super Hero and will have lots of fun, especially taking part in a Super Hero obstacle course. **(Please note this is a change of date from the previous newsletter).**

- **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> April- SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS.** All children can have an individual and class photograph taken. Please speak to your child's teacher if you would like other family members included.
- **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> May- Big Bad Bass, Ulster Orchestra visit.** All children should come to Nursery anytime between 9.00am and 9.20am to ease traffic congestion. Children should be collected after the performance anytime between 10.45am and 11.00am.
- **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> May-Nursery closed, May Day Bank Holiday.**
- **Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> May-No Afternoon Session** due to new intake induction day.
- **Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May - Nursery closed** due to new intake induction day.
- **Monday 28<sup>th</sup> May-Nursery closed-Bank holiday,**
- **Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> May-Nursery closed-Staff Development Day**