



March 2017 Newsletter

We are sorry to say goodbye to our cook, Linda, who has decided to take some time out from working. Linda leaves at the end of February and we wish her well.

We are having a **Red** day on **Friday 24th March 2017**, to raise funds for Red Nose Day. You can donate £1 to dress in red for the day and also purchase one of our red noses at £1 each. We will have lots of fun and games and maybe a red meal day too!

Please remember that nursery fees are payable in advance, due by the 1st of each month, to be settled no later than the 14th. After that a late payment fee will be added. It is becoming increasingly evident that many parents do not settle their invoice until the end of the month, some only when the *next* invoice is issued! It can be quite embarrassing for staff to continually remind parents that fees are due. Apologies to those who continually pay on time.

Can we please ask if you have any clothing belonging to the nursery (usually a big R on the label) they are returned. We are beginning to run out of clothes, for both sexes. (The boys are not happy to be offered pink trousers!) Maybe a change of clothes in the bag would be a good idea. Thank you

Should you have any clothing that is too small / not used etc. we would be delighted to add them to our cupboard.

Can all parents/carers using a **casual placement** please ensure dates for the following month are requested before the **14th of the month**. This is when invoices, registers and rotas are created for the month to come. This in turn allows us to check availability for additional days. As some groups have limited places, we do not want to refuse a place because of a late request. Thank you

Julie and Kirsty have requested that you name, or initial, clothing and footwear. We fully understand how frustrating it must be when your child's shoes or jumper etc. are not on the peg, but it is sometimes impossible for us to keep track of every individual piece of clothing. (What makes it even more difficult is when children come in with identical coats/jackets and shoes!) A simple initial under the label, or inside shoes/wellies will help greatly. Children can become quite distressed if they believe another child is wearing 'their' shoes etc!

We have two students Miss Taylor and Miss Emily with us from New College Lanarkshire, one attending on a Thursday and one on a Friday. We know they will enjoy their experience with us and playing with your children.

We have an annual training programme in place where staff are doing training on our new self evaluation tool. We also are updating our child protection protocols and will continue to carry out any training required for any new legislation or documentation.



Promoting the children's independence:

We would also like to ask that the children are encouraged to bring their own coats/shoes into the 3-5yr room, for them to find their name peg and to be responsible for hanging it up them. This promotes their own independence & self esteem for going onto school later.

South Lanarkshire Council Register:

A reminder please about signing the South Lanarkshire register, it is in the 3-5 year room and provides evidence that funded places are being used effectively. Any queries please speak to Sharon, Kirsty or Julie.



Activities in February 2017

0-24 Months

The children have been busy enjoying a small focus on 'myself' They have taken part in "sticky kids" workouts, those who were able to do the actions wanted to repeat it again and again and those who were not at this stage, were encouraged to move to the music. The children also looked at different foods, having little tasters at snacktime. They also made collage fruits and vegetables. We introduced the children to different parts of the body: eyes, nose, mouth etc and were excitedly pointing to them when singing songs. We have been encouraging story time in small groups to promote sitting skills and concentration.

24-36 Months

The group have been learning how to recognise colours through various activities. The children spent time printing with red, yellow, blue and green. They had all different coloured toys in the sand area and the water colour was changed daily to reflect the colour they were exploring. The group were learning colours through exercise. Using a little rhyme they made up, the children did 'exercises' which got them using their muscles and helped with co-ordination. Whilst looking at coloured vehicles the children were showing interest in what the cars and vehicles were rather than the actual colours, the fire engine being the favourite. As a result of this staff decided to take this forward for their next focus and look at people who help us and the transport they use.

3-5 years

We have had a busy start to the New Year with a healthy week in January, which involved the children joining in our keep fit exercise's every morning, discussing healthy eating and leaning how to keep ourselves healthy. In February, we celebrated Chinese New Year. We enjoyed a delicious Chinese menu for snack & lunch, the children even tried using chopsticks to which proved good fun and very messy!

After half term we started our new focus on Space, the children have been really enthusiastic and have been bringing in books and toys from home. We have been learning the names of the planets, where we live and this will be extended into leaning about day & night time. If you would like to see our on going Floorbook, it make for fascinating reading and shows in greater depth what the children have been learning about. The feedback from parents/carers has been tremendous – our parents comments page is in the 3 – 5 year room, if you like to add to it.

Please ensure the children come to nursery with appropriate clothing and footwear, especially in this weather!