

# Ashleigh Nursery

## Newsletter



24th November 2017

### This Week

This week has been all about the traditional tale of The Gingerbread man! The children have listened and joined in with the story, enjoyed playing with character puppets, story cards, making gingerbread man shapes out of playdough, decorating paper gingerbread men and retelling the story to their friends. At the end of the week we made our own gingerbread men and decorated these to take home. Those children who missed this have a gingerbread biscuit waiting for them in Nursery for next week!

We plan to start regular cooking sessions with children after Christmas and we will vary the day and times we cook each time to ensure that all children get a turn. Where possible we will make enough of each recipe so that everyone has something to take home. If you are able to donate £1 to help fund ingredients it would be greatly appreciated and we are able to cook more often and more adventurously.

In our number work we were exploring patterns, we found patterns that are all around us and then went on to explore the patterns of nature. We enjoyed making them in the air as we drew large scale pattern pictures that only we could see! We had to look carefully to describe some patterns and had to think carefully about the colours, shapes or objects used.

### Next week

Next week we begin our two week topic 'winter' leading into our Christmas celebrations at the end of term. Next week we will think about the seasonal changes we notice all around us, how the trees have lost all their leaves now, how the mornings and evenings are much darker and how the weather is getting colder.

It is important that the children learn about 'conservation of number', knowing the value of 1,2,3,4,5 etc. or the 'one-ness of one', the 'two-ness of two' etc. a skill that we take for granted, so we will be doing lots of number activities including counting, playing games, matching and ordering. The springboard for this topic will be maths through story.

You will find attached to this letter a maths sheet that will give you lots of practical ideas of how to support your child's maths development.

### PATHS

This week through circle time discussions and stories we have covered 'sharing, caring and friendship'. The children have explored the associated feelings and thought carefully about how we make friends, how we form positive relationships and how we maintain friendships through positive behaviours. The PATHS special person of the day is well underway and the children are enjoying their special responsibilities that go along with this role. Please return the compliment sheet once you have added a compliment for your child so that we can keep a copy in our compliment book. The giving and receiving of compliments is essential to building self-esteem, resilience and confidence. Next week we are going to be learning about different feelings, acknowledging that we all have these but it is our responses to them that we can control.

### **Books of the Week**

The Gingerbread Man

Keep running, Gingerbread Man

Various traditional tales

I love you, little Monkey

Elmer and the Stranger

### **Thank you!**

Thank you for the wonderful Gingerbread treats you made us and the crafts and games that were brought in. It is always lovely to see how the children are extending their learning at home. A very big thank you to the parent volunteers who helped us with cooking this week. It really would be impossible to run this activity without you and we are very grateful for your support. Mrs Sprake is putting together a rota of all the cooking volunteers so that we can cook regularly next term.

### **Tapestry Update**

Hopefully Tapestry accounts are up and running. Please let us know if any of you are still not able to access your Tapestry account.

### **Funding**

Please make sure you check and update your 30 hours funding code regularly.

**You need to reconfirm your eligibility every three months on the government gateway website.**

More information is available via your government gateway online account. Please ask Monica in the school office if you have any funding queries.

### **Bike and Scooter reward week**

The children have been collecting "bugs in a jug" - a bug is placed in the jug when we notice great behaviour for learning – great listening, helpful tidying, working with friends or where children are kind, helpful and considerate to one another. Once the jug is full the children can choose a reward for their hard work. The jug is full and the children have chosen as their treat a bike and scooter week!

Next week, the week beginning Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November children are invited to bring in their own bike or scooter from home, along with a helmet, to ride on the Nursery playgrounds. Children will be supervised at all times but please make sure they are able to ride their chosen bike/scooter independently. Scooters and bikes should be parked in the playground near the welly racks on drop off. If you are using Treehouse breakfast club they can be left with the breakfast club staff.

### **Thunks of the week**

What would the world be like without sharing, caring or friendship?

Can you ever run out of smiles, where do smiles go?

### **Water bottles – reminder**

Please can we remind everyone that children's water bottles should contain water only and not juice or squash. As a healthy school our policy is water only in bottles please. The children do have access to the milk cartons we provide and also water in cups throughout the sessions. We regularly remind children to have a drink and where to find the Nursery milk and water.

### **Nursery Christmas sing-a-long and crafts**

We would like to invite grown-ups to join us for a Christmas sing-a-long and craft session.

We are holding 3 of these sessions:

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 10.15 am

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 2.00 pm

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 10.15 am

If your child does not attend on any of these days you are welcome to bring them in with you for one of the sessions.

Sign-up sheets will be available from next week at collection time in Butterfly room. If you are unable to make any of these please let us know and we will arrange another time for you to visit.

### **Nursery Christmas Lunch 14<sup>th</sup> December**

Nursery children are able to order a special Christmas lunch on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December

Please book in the usual way, via wisePAY, if you would like to take this option.

Children having other lunch options that day will still be included in the festivities and will still eat with all their friends and Nursery grown ups!

### **Home/Nursery Links**

Each week we will suggest some activities you could do at home with your child to support their learning in Nursery.

- Ask the children what happened at the end of the gingerbread man story, can they think of a different ending? Could the gingerbread man have escaped? Use sequencing words: first, next, and then, lastly.
- Talk about makes a good friend, what does your child like doing with their friends and family?
- Read some counting stories, encourage your child to count along and count one to one with you.
- Do some cooking at home – talk about what ingredients you need and how they changed when they are mixed are cooked.
- Pair up patterned socks when sorting the washing!

- Go on a pattern detective walk and notice the beautiful natural patterns that are all around us e.g. a leaf, spiders web, bark, logs etc.
- 

### Important Dates

- Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November – PTA Christmas Fayre
- Christmas sing-a-long stay and play sessions:
- Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 10.15 am
- Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 2.00 pm
- Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 10.15 am

**Please also see the main school newsletter for details of whole-school events.**

### The Nursery Team

Mrs Lacey



Mrs Sprake



Mrs Cowdry



Mrs Sharp



Miss Pratt



Also in our Nursery team but not pictured are Mrs Roberts and Miss Bruce. You will also meet Mrs Robinson who helps us in Butterfly room at morning drop off.

Mrs Cowdry also greets the children attending Breakfast sessions with us and Miss Pratt looks after the Nursery children attending after school club. They will be happy to discuss your child's Nursery day with you at drop off or pick up too.

Please remember that we are always available for a quick chat at the start or end of the session, however, if you would like a longer discussion then please let us know so that we can arrange a suitable time.

Mrs. Lacey & Mrs. Sprake