

# Ashleigh Nursery

## Newsletter



8th December 2017

### This Week

We continued our Winter topic with the children enjoying lots of winter stories and poems. We collected signs of Winter as we read the texts to help us reflect upon the seasonal changes. The children have made some fantastic Winter inspired artwork exploring a range of techniques – this is on display in both classrooms, have a look when you drop off or collect.

In our number work we continued using numbers to 5 and 10 in our learning circle focusing on careful counting (using a finger to help you count each object, counting slowly and remembering the next number each time). We also looked at how numbers can be represented as patterns and how this can help us to count, playing dice games is a great way to reinforce this skill. The children counted and glued snowflakes onto mittens, matched snowmen to number patterns, used magnets to catch the right number of fish for penguins and lots more!

### Next week

Next week we will focus on Christmas specifically exploring why and how people celebrate Christmas at this time of year. We will learn about traditions and how people may do different things to celebrate. If your child would like to share their own traditions/celebrations from home with us please add to the Nursery home/school books and we will enjoy reading these to the class.

### Sing along stay and play sessions next week

We have been learning our Christmas songs and the children are looking forward to our grown-ups joining us to sing them too at our stay and play sessions next week!

The sessions will start with a circle time where you will sit with your child to join in with the Christmas songs. You will then have time to complete Christmas crafts with your child. The sessions will last for approximately an hour, at this time, we will stop the children and ask that you wait outside as our usual collection arrangements, so that we can gather the children to do hometime and/or get ready for lunch in the usual way. Where possible, you may be able to collect your child a few minutes early by signing them out.

### PATHS

This week we have continued to learn about specific feelings through story. We have looked at how we can look at the clues on a person's face to work out how they are feeling, we have looked specifically at eyes, mouths and eye-brows. We have discussed that all feelings are ok whether they are comfortable or uncomfortable and also that different events may make us feel different to someone else, and that this too is ok. We have talked about how our responses to feelings i.e. our behaviours may not always be ok, this leads us into our PATHS work next week where the children will learn to 'do turtle', in order to calm themselves when they are feeling e.g. upset or cross. You will find details of this strategy in next weeks letter.

### **Books of the Week**

Jack Frost

My First Book of Nature

Here's a Little Poem

Stickman

"When I'm feeling....." (series of books about feelings)

### **Reverse Advent Calendar**

Ashleigh Primary School is running a reverse advent calendar this year, collecting household items for Norwich foodbank. If you are able to contribute to this cause then donations of any of the items on the list below can be left with Nursery staff and will be delivered to Norwich foodbank along with the rest of the school's collection. Thank you for your support with this.

*UHT milk, toothpaste, long life fruit juice, shower gel, rice pudding, shampoo, instant coffee, toothbrushes, tinned vegetables, deodorant, teabags (40s/80s), biscuits, toilet rolls, cereal bars, pasta sauce, tinned potatoes, instant mash, long life sponge pudding, tinned meat, tinned pie, sweets, instant coffee, washing powder.*

### **Lost cardigan**

One of our Nursery children has unfortunately lost their Ashleigh cardigan. It is named with personalised name tags with a star on them, the name tag can be found under the size label on the cardigan. Please could you have a look at the cardigans you have at home to check that your child has brought the correct one home.

### **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.

### **Sing-a-long**

The children are excitedly listening to some Christmas songs and practising singing along for our sing-a-long sessions that are coming up. We are learning in particular;

Jingle Bells

and

Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer

If you hear these songs out and about or have them at home, please practise singing along with your child! We have copies of the song lyrics in Nursery and we will send these home over the next few days if you have not already received them. Please ask if you need a copy.

### Think's of the week

If you could choose just one thing to change about the world, what would it be?

What will happen at the end of the world?

What is true happiness?

What makes you, you?

Should people care more about doing the right thing, or doing things right?

### Home/Nursery Links

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

- Talk about celebrations as a family – what do you celebrate and why?
- Share some of these in your Nursery home/school book.
- Go for a Winter walk to spot signs of winter, use all your senses – make a memory stick (attach items to the stick that helps you to talk about what you found out).
- We are practising songs for our sing-a-long, can you practise at home too!
- Read some winter or Christmas stories and make links to traditions at home or things you have noticed out and about.
- Practise careful counting at home – use your index finger to point to each object in turn, count slowly and say one number at a time. Can you check if you were right?
- Acknowledge and talk about different feelings– excited, tired, frustrated, happy, sad, angry etc. Which are comfortable feelings? Which are uncomfortable and how did you start to feel better?
- Play different games that involve a dice!

### Important Dates

- School Christmas lunch Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December
- 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
- Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December 3.15pm – Nursery closes for Christmas holidays

**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