

# Ashleigh Nursery

## Newsletter



9<sup>th</sup> March 2018

### This Week

The children came back into Nursery after the snow days eager to share with us all of their snowy adventures! This week we have been learning about measuring and estimating, these are new words and tricky concepts, we have been exploring how to make a 'sensible guess' and have practised comparing things (toys, children, shoes, hands, feet) to 'measure' them. In a very playful way we have introduced using non-standard units to measure – how many bricks are as tall as you? How many cubes can you fit in your shoe?

### Next week

Next week we will begin three weeks of learning about Spring and then Easter as we move towards the Easter holidays. With the recent cold weather and many signs of Spring yet to arrive we will start by talking about the variety of weather we get at this time of year and looking for shoots, buds and other clues that Spring is coming.

We will also be practising our listening and understanding skills throughout all of our activities in Nursery – playing listening games, listening to recorded stories, listening carefully to count sounds.

### PATHS

This week we have been listening to some well-known classical music and discussed how it makes us feel and how music can change our emotions. We also explored two beautifully illustrated texts *Under The Same Sky* and *Feelings: Inside my Heart and in my Head*, we looked at how the illustrations help to represent emotions.

### THUNK of the week

You walk into class and instead of your teacher you find Goldilocks sitting in her chair. She tells you that you can ask three questions, which would you pick and why?

### **Stay and play- Easter/Spring**

We are inviting parents and carers to join us to stay and play for Easter themed crafts.

The dates and times are below, sign-up sheets will be available from next week

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> March: 1:30-2:30 pm

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> March: 9:30–10:30am

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March: 9:30-10:30am

### **Sport Relief – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March**

Across the school the classes are participating in fund raising activities for Sport Relief.

On Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> Nursery children are going to challenge themselves to walk/jog or run around the school field! Sponsorship donations can be brought on the day or the following Monday.

### **Drop in sessions availability**

- We have one permanent space available in the Monday morning session, 8.30 to 11.30am.
  - We have one lunch space available each day.
- Also, we often have spaces available in sessions due to children's known absence. Children who already attend our Nursery are welcome to book an extra session on a one off basis if space is available for that day (there may be a cost involved depending on your number of funded hours).
- Please contact Monica in the school office at [nursery@ashleighprimary.net](mailto:nursery@ashleighprimary.net) for further information.

### **Nursery Playgrounds**

Please be vigilant and make sure that siblings or other children do not play with balls or other Nursery toys when collecting or dropping off at Nursery. Unfortunately we are aware of a recent incident where a younger child was hurt by an older child kicking a ball after school.

### **Toys**

We have noticed an increasing number of toys being brought into Nursery. These are creating upset when lost or mislaid and take a considerable amount of time at the end of each session to locate and return to their owner! Please encourage children to leave toys at home to keep them safe.

We appreciate that some children bring a regular "comforter" toy and store it in their bag or the home box - it is fine for this to continue as normal.

### **Footwear**

Please make sure children come to Nursery in comfortable shoes. If wellies are worn on the way to school please help your child change into their school shoes on arrival.

### **Attendance**

Please note that morning sessions start at 8.30am, when children arrive late learning is disrupted and we have noticed children who are late are often anxious or embarrassed and need reassurance. Please make every effort to arrive on time if at all possible.

### **Book day events rescheduled**

The world book day events which were cancelled last week have been rescheduled. The Story Café will now take place on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> March and the world book day dressing up day will take place on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> March.

We are assuming those attending the Story Café will still be attending the new date, please see the school office if this has changed.

### **Books of the Week**

Noisy Farm; Peace at Last; Alfie's Feet; The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark;  
Banana!

### **Fairtrade fortnight**

Classes throughout the school have participated in lots of learning activities to celebrate Fairtrade fortnight. In Nursery this week on Thursday and Friday we looked at pictures to discover how our well loved snack the banana is grown, farmed and transported to us. We also noticed the fairtrade stickers on bananas and what they mean.

If you would like to discuss the topic further with your child at home the Fairtrade website has lots of information. <https://www.fairtrade.org.uk/>

### **Holiday Policy**

Due to the changes in government policy relating to Nursery funding we no longer receive payment when children are absent from Nursery due to holiday. In order to

align our practice with other providers the governors have agreed a change in policy which will come into effect from the summer term 2018.

From the 16<sup>th</sup> April 2018 if you are planning a holiday during term time we will require a four week notice period and you will be invoiced for the hours lost.

### **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.

### **Home/Nursery Links**

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

- Count claps or sounds – listen carefully to how many you can hear or drop pennies into a tin and count them as you listen.
- Try estimating – how many steps to the car? how many snacks in a packet? Can you count to see if your guess was close?
- Spot signs of Spring as you go about your day – can you notice any shoots or buds?
- Look out for numbers all around – road signs, houses, packaging, clothing.
- Look out for familiar signs, what do they tell us?

### **Important Dates**

- Story café event after school - Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> March
- Rescheduled World Book Day - Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> March
- Sport Relief - Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March
- Monday 26<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> stay and play sessions.
- Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March 3.15pm – School closes for Easter Holidays

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

## The Nursery Team



Mrs Lacey



Mrs Sprake



Mrs Cowdry



Miss Pratt



Miss Bruce



Mrs Roberts



Mrs Sharp



Mrs Robinson

Mrs Robinson is with 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