

# Ashleigh Nursery

## Newsletter



16th March 2018

### This Week

We have launched into learning all about spring! We have been talking to the children about the changes they might notice in the world around them at this time of year, for example; flowers, blossom, buds, baby animals, birds building nests and bees buzzing.

We have also been thinking about planting and growing. We have planted some herb and vegetable seeds which we will grow indoors until they are strong enough to plant out. This week we practised our listening skills – playing an “I can hear a number” game where the children have to listen carefully to count musical sounds.

### Next week

Next week we will continue to learn about spring, moving on to learn about animals at this time of year and growing in more detail. To support this we will be doing lots of spring scavenger hunts outside where we will explore the school grounds to hunt for signs of spring. We will also be planting some seeds on the farm to begin our growing season. At the end of the week we will begin to talk about Easter, why it is celebrated and explore some Easter traditions.

### PATHS

This week we have watched and then responded to a short film, ‘The Rainbow People’, this animation explores ideas of equality and diversity and how life is enriched by every individual’s unique and special qualities, it also helped us to think about the power of us working as a team.

### THUNK of the week

Listen to a piece of music and tell your grown-up three things it made you think of or feel and why?

Grown-ups try this link to classical music:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8hFRYPvtEeU>

### **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! The children are very excited about doing this, please bring sponsorship donations on the day or the following Monday. Photographs will be posted on Tapestry to see how we got on!

### **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.

### **Water bottles**

Please ensure your child has a water bottle with them in Nursery each day.

### **Treat**

The children have been collecting "bugs in a jug" as rewards for brilliant learning behaviour over this term. The jug is now full and the children have chosen a short movie with popcorn. We are going to link this to World Book Day and have the treat on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> March and again on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> March, hopefully this will mean most children get to have the treat, but we will vary the day of treats each time to ensure everyone is involved.

### **Drop off and collection – after Easter**

Each year after Easter we promote children's independence skills by encouraging them to come into Nursery by themselves, to hang up their coat, put bags and water bottles away, self-register and find an activity.

Nursery adults are stationed in the cloakrooms and on the carpet areas to provide support with this as needed. At hometime the Nursery staff support the children with collecting their belongings and then we dismiss the children one by one from the main door once we have seen their adult who will be waiting on the playground.

Every year we are amazed at how the children respond by rising to the challenge and how proud and important they feel to be doing something so grown up! We will start with the new routine from the second week back after Easter - Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> April.

Before and after school club drop offs and collections remain the same - these children will also manage their own belongings with support when they arrive and leave Nursery each day.

### **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**

Spring non-fiction books, Sometimes I feel Sunny, Chicky chicky chook chook, Stanley on the Farm, The Worry Monster, The Truth according to Arthur.

### **Congratulations**

Congratulations to Chloe Sharp and her husband Rob who are expecting a baby in late July!

### **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.

- Watch birds or bees that you see outside, where are they going and what are they doing – how do you know?
- Talk about Easter – do you celebrate Easter at home? If so, add some photos to Tapestry and share with us how you celebrate Easter – the children love sharing their news with the classes.
- Bring us some springtime art for the home art walls.
- If there is something your child would particularly like to grow on the farm, or if you have spare seeds at home please let us know or bring them in and we will include them in our growing plans.

### **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