

Ashleigh Nursery

Newsletter



20th April 2018

This Week

This week we have based our learning around the book "Dear Zoo", the text has been a great hit with the children and they have been excited to learn about the different kinds of animals that might live in a zoo. We have talked about what a zoo is, looked at zoo maps as well as starting to learn where the different animals might live in the wider world. We have also explored each animals different features, similarities and differences. This book links into our next topic 'pets', thinking about what makes a good pet.

The lovely weather has meant we have at last been able to make the most of our outside area, the children have enjoyed water play, large scale construction and practicing their ball skills outside this week.

Next week

Next week is the start of our pet topic which will last for two weeks. We will meet the pets which live at Ashleigh Primary School as well as hosting some exciting pet visitors.

If you have pets at home we would love to hear about them, children may bring in photos or add to Tapestry pictures too!

Over the course of the fortnight we will have visiting guinea pigs, pet snakes, tortoises, rabbits and Monty our school dog. All children will be very closely supervised during pet visits but if you have any allergy concerns please do let one of the Nursery staff know as soon as possible.

If you have a small or unusual pet that might like to visit us in Nursery there is still time to arrange this so please let Mrs. Sprake or Mrs. Lacey know.

PATHS

Next week we will begin our summer term PATHS sessions, we will kick this off by learning about the fostering of a positive environment. During the summer term we aim to return to some previous taught ideas and explore them through other more various contexts and of course, in greater depth. Our emotions, emotional literacy and problem solving are progressive and our understanding grows as we grow.

THUNK of the week

What is possible and what is impossible?

"Good to be green"

At Ashleigh we use our behaviour ladder in classes in a positive manner to set behaviour expectations. A copy of the ladder can be found on the school website. From next week we will be introducing 'Good to be Green' cards to celebrate learning behaviours.

Donations

We are in need of children's magazines again if anyone has any at home. Also our junk modelling could do with topping up so if you have any pots, cardboard tubes or small boxes at home we would greatly appreciate them. Thank you for your support!

Drop in sessions availability

- We have one permanent space available in both the Monday and Friday morning sessions, 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 for further information.

Water bottles, sun hats and sun cream

As the weather gets warmer please ensure children have a bottle of **water**, a sun hat and sun cream applied before Nursery as appropriate to the forecast. We are lucky to have lots of shade outside and remind children regularly to drink or have a rest if they feel hot.

Entrances

You will have noticed we are now using the 'front' entrance for Butterfly room in the morning. Thank you all for your support with the change.

Drop off and collection

You will have noticed that the children have already started coming in independently in the mornings. Many children were excited about coming in by themselves at the start of the week and so we went with it, and encouraged them to come in independently **where appropriate**.

Thank you for your support with this, we are so proud of the children this week, they have taken it all in their stride and seem very pleased with themselves.

Please remember that while we will be encouraging and supporting children to be more independent, if you feel your child still needs help with belongings or has a wobbly day you are always welcome to come in and support them.

Please do not play on the railings outside either room before or after school as this is a matter of safety.

Toys

It is really difficult for us to return toys to their owners at the end of each session and many get lost or left behind. Please discourage children from bringing toys to Nursery wherever possible. The less the children bring in with them, the easier it is to ensure that they have all their belongings at the end of the session.

Word Aware

We are trialling a new approach to teaching vocabulary in the Early Years. We will be using the Word Aware scheme to plan targeted words and we will have one or two 'words of the week' each week. We will send home the words of the week in the newsletter so you can practice using these when speaking and noticing them in stories at home.

Books of the Week

Dear Zoo

Supermarket Zoo

I went to the Zoopermarket

How much does a Ladybird Weigh?

Tapestry

The school has been experiencing internet problems this week, so you will have noticed we are very low on Tapestry reports, this issue has now been resolved.

Please bear with us until we catch up! If you would ever like an update on what your child has been up to please just ask one of us.

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 16th 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.

- What is a zoo? Have you ever been to one or seen one in a book? What kind of animals might you see there?
- Which animals would make good pets? Why?
- Do you know which animals live in hot climates? How about cold places?
- Bring in a photo or a drawing of your pet, a family pet or an animal you think would make a good pet.
- Spot pets when you are out and about, how are their owners looking after them?
- Play eye spy – can children begin to hear which sound a word starts with?

Important Dates

Nursery trip to the dinosaur park – Thursday 14th June

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