

# Ashleigh Nursery

## Newsletter



11th May 2018

### This Week

We have commenced our farm topic by starting off reading two classic picture books 'Farmer Duck' and 'Little Red Hen', exploring the jobs that the characters had to do on the farm and linking this to our experiences of working on the school farm.

The children explored lots of farm related craft and sensory activities through their independent learning time, and of course we were so excited to watch the lambs arrive on Tuesday. The children had a go at making bread, watching how the mixture changed as we added ingredients and cooked them. The children tried their bread at Nursery and the verdict was that it was very tasty!

### Next week

Next week is science and farming week across the whole school. Nursery will be joining in with several activities throughout the week. We are lucky to have two children's authors coming to visit us and a visit from a tractor, we will be able to see the tractor up close and find out how it works. We will continue taking the children to visit the school farm, to help with jobs and feed our quickly growing lambs.

The authors visiting us next week are Doug Vallgren reading 'Rupert the Dinosaur', and Sandra Derry reading 'Sheep's Curly Hair Day' and 'Molly Moo the Independent Cow'. They will be sharing their books and some follow up activities with the classes. There will be an opportunity to purchase reduced price copies of their books at the end of the sessions if any one would like to read the books at home.

See below for details of the stay and play sessions.

### Farm week stay and play

On Friday 18<sup>th</sup> May, to coincide with the whole school farmer's market (see main school newsletter for details) Nursery are hosting stay and play sessions where the Nursery children will be selling some baked goods!

Each class in the school has been given a budget and challenged to make money at the farmer's market, Nursery have decided to bake cakes and will be selling these at the stay and play sessions and at the farmers market.

The stay and play sessions will be 9.30 to 10.30am and 2 until 3pm.

**Adults – please bring wellies to change into if you would like to visit the school farm.**

### PATHS

We have learnt about self-esteem and the power of compliments through several texts, 'What I like About Me', 'Nothing Like a Puffin' and 'Dog's don't do Ballet'. Next week our theme is *sharing, caring and friendship*.

### THUNK of the week

Listen to a piece of music and talk about three things that it made you think of or feel and why?

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

### Word Aware

This week our 'word of the week' is **lazy**.

We have learnt the word *lazy* and what it means. We made up an action for the word and explored all the different ways we can use it. We read two stories where some of the characters were *lazy*. Around Nursery we had a week of not being *lazy* and getting on with lots of farming jobs.

### 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.

### Books of the Week

Farmer Duck; Little Red Hen; Dinosaur Farm; Farm non-fiction texts; Dora's Chicks

### Cooking donations summer term

We are hoping to cook regularly over this term, if you are able to bring in a £1 donation to help us with extra ingredients we would be very grateful and can cook more exciting things! This is separate to the budget for the farmer's market cooking.

### **Spare clothes and carrier bags**

We are in need of spare clothes (particularly leggings/jogging bottoms and t shirts) and also carrier bags to help us when children need a change of clothes.

If anyone has some old clothing that is still in good condition to donate or any unwanted carrier bags please bring them in as our supplies are running low!

### **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.

- What do farms do? What do they produce?
- Can you spot tractors or farm vehicles being busy? What jobs are they doing?
- Look at your cereal or bread packets with an adult – can you find out what are made of?
- Have a go at planting some seeds at home and seeing what you can grow.
- Make a collage of a farm animal for our displays in Nursery, how many different materials can you use?

### **Important Dates**

Farm week stay and play – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> May

Nursery trip to the dinosaur park – Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> June

Transition day for new classes – 28<sup>th</sup> June (letter will follow)

**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