

# Ashleigh Nursery Newsletter



22<sup>nd</sup> March 2019

## This week

The children have enjoyed learning about birds in Spring. We collected eggs on the farm and found an old bird's nest which we examined closely to notice all of the materials the birds used to build it. We watched a video of a bird building a nest and noticed how they weave the materials using their beaks. Following this the children made chocolate bird's nest cakes and had a go at building their own nests from various materials.

In phonics we continued learning to hear rhyming words, trying to match rhyming pairs and notice the odd word out in rhyming games.

In maths we sang lots of number rhymes which involve basic subtraction – 5 little ducks, 5 little fishes, zoom zoom zoom and noticed that the numbers were getting smaller as we took something away.

## Books of the week

Eggs and Chicks

Hen's Pens

Handa's Hen

## Word of the week

Our word of the week this week was "hatch", we talked about what hatching means. We learnt how birds make a nest and keep their eggs warm until they hatch.

## Next week

We will be continuing with our Spring topic, moving on to learning about Easter. Now that the weather is a bit better, we will be taking small groups of children on Spring walks within the school grounds to spot signs of Spring.

In phonics we will be using the musical instruments to copy patterns.

In maths we will be learning about number patterns – for example seeing 4 dots on a dice and knowing that there is "4" without counting.



### **Easter Stay and Play Sessions – Writing/Fine Motor Skills Focus**

We are holding some stay and play sessions in the last week of term, you are invited to come into Nursery to join us for some Easter crafts with a focus on how we teach skills for early writing and fine motor control.

The sessions are;

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 9.15 to 10.15 am

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 1.45pm to 2.45pm

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April 9.15 to 10.15 am

Sign-up sheets will be available next week.

**Spaces in each session are limited so please bring one adult per child and sign up for just one session.**

There will be further opportunities for stay and play sessions next term.

### **Summer Trip**

Thank you for returning the Summer trip form, now that we know the numbers attending we will calculate costs and confirm details for the day as soon as possible.

Please note that we cannot accommodate siblings on the trip.

### **Mini-professors visit**

We have arranged for mini-professors to visit Ashleigh Nursery on the morning of Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June to run an exciting science workshop. A letter will be coming home next week with details of charges and how to book. If your child does not wish to take part Nursery is open as normal.

### **Pet topic**

After the Easter Holidays will be learning about pets. This is always a very popular topic with the children. We have guinea pigs, a rabbit, chickens and the school dog which will visit Nursery so that we can learn how to care for pets.

If you have a small or unusual pet at home that you would be able to bring into Nursery to visit as part of our topic please let Mrs Sprake know. In the past we have had visiting snakes, stick insects, tortoises, rabbits and a bearded dragon.



### Shoes

Please send children to Nursery in shoes that they can fasten themselves. Shoes with laces that can come untied are not suitable for Nursery, unless your child is confident with managing these themselves.

### Nursery Lunches

	<b>via Wisepay</b>	<b>via School (cash/cheque)</b>
<b>Nursery</b>	£1.50	£1.80

Please pre-order lunches for week commencing Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March before midnight on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March.

If you need help with the system or your log-in details to be reissued, please contact the school office.

### Nursery/Home school links

- Watch what birds are doing when you are out and about, are they collecting material to build a nest? Or finding food?
- Ask your child how a bird builds a nest, can they tell you some of the materials used?
- This week in Nursery we melted chocolate to make bird's nest cakes – can you think of other things that melt?

### Lost Property

There is a lost property box in the cloakroom in Butterfly room. Unnamed lost items will be placed there at the end of each day. Please check to see if anything there is yours.

### 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.

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.

### Drop in sessions availability

We have permanent spaces available:

Mornings: Tuesday and Wednesday

Afternoons: Monday

Lunches: Full

We sometimes 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.

### Important dates

Tues 2 <sup>nd</sup> Apr	9:15-10:15am Nursery Stay and Play
Wed 3 <sup>rd</sup> Apr	1:45-2:45pm Nursery Stay and Play
Thurs 4 <sup>th</sup> Apr	9:15-10:15am Nursery Stay and Play
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> April	3:15pm Nursery closes for Easter Holidays
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April	8:30am Nursery reopens
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May	Nursery closed for Bank Holiday
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	3:15pm Nursery closes for half term
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	8:30am Nursery reopens
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> July	3:15pm Nursery closes for Summer Holidays

Please also see the main school newsletter for important dates.

### Tapestry

We love to see examples of your learning and progress at home on Tapestry so please do add photographs and comments.

### The Nursery Team

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. Sprake