



# NEWSLETTER APRIL 2018

As most of you may already be aware Keeley has now began her maternity leave. We wish her and Craig all the best as they welcome their baby boy into the world, due in May. Grace and Cherye will remain in the office and are more than happy to assist you with any queries.

If you have any clothes that no longer fit your child, particularly trousers, any donations would be gratefully received to add to our spare clothes box. Please can we ask if your child has recently used clothes out of our spare box that they are returned back to the nursery.

A little reminder to all parents and carers to please ensure your child/children are signed in and out of the nursery on arrival and departure. This is to ensure the safety of all children in the case of an emergency.

## **Kitchen**

Just a reminder, if your child has a birthday coming up and you would like to request a cake, please ask a member of the team with at least one week's notice. These are at an additional cost of £5 payable by cash. All dietary requirements are catered for. Thank you, Susan.

## **Tiddlers and Seahorses**

Tiddlers and seahorses would like to welcome our new friends into the nursery. We hope our all of our children that have moved onto goldfish continue to have a wonderful time while they are with us.

In babies we have been very busy continuing to explore our senses. We have been investigating lots of resources in our tactile tray. The children particularly enjoyed making marks in the shaving foam with the cars. To continue our love and interest in physical play we have made the most of the outdoors even on rainy days. We have enjoyed splashing and jumping in the puddles. We plan to do this as much as the weather allows. Please can we ask your child has an all in one and wellies.

We have been focusing on our singing and rhyme time as we begin to learn sounds and actions. Seahorses have started to imitate the words and actions for 'I had a tiny turtle and twinkle twinkle' these are two of our favourites.

During the spring season babies are continuing to explore the blossom tree, daisies and flowers. We will be getting creative as we use the natural resources to create spring time collages.

## **Goldfish**

This month in Goldfish we are going to be concentrating on our maths skills, including puzzles, colours, numbers and shapes. We will be practicing lots with our puzzles and shape sorters and be looking at books and singing songs that encourage numbers and colours. As the children are really enjoying the sensory experiences in the tactile tray

at the moment we will be having lots of fun exploring in there with lots of different activities including water beads, mixing paints to create lots of different colours and exploring with different shapes, using them to create our own pictures with the paint and printing them into different messy play such as shaving foam and gloop and looking at the different shape marks we have made.

Also to develop our understanding of the world we made a special gift for our mummies for Mother's day, created our own Irish flags to mark St Patrick's Day and made some tasty treats for Easter.

This month in Goldfish we will be looking at transport. We will be using the cars and trains to make marks through paint and different tactile activities, decorating and playing in large cardboard boxes to use as different types of transport and using the water in the garden we will be washing the play cars. We will also be enjoying water play with boats and using different boxes and items to do some junk modelling to create our own versions of transport. Finally we will be attempting, when we can, to get out on some walks around the village and see what different transport we can see.

### **Seashells**

Seashells would like to welcome Elijah, Hayden, Edie, Ella, Owen and George P into the room. They have all been having lots of trials and have settled into the seashell room well.

Seashells have been exploring easter a lot throughout March and have had lots of fun with some exciting tactile trays which in turn helped to develop their fine motor skills, social skills, understanding of the word and their maths skills. These tactile trays included different medias such as coloured oats, shredded paper, small world animals, different sized and coloured eggs and also coloured rice.

In April, we are going to be focusing on developing the children's independence when it comes to snack times and self-care. The children will be encouraged to wash their hands by themselves and turn the taps on and off, getting soap and drying their hands with a paper towel. To support this the children will also be encouraged to pour their drinks at snack times to develop self confidence and their gross motor skills.

We would just like to remind all of the seashell parents to ensure that the children have indoor shoes/slippers as well as welly boots for the garden to ensure we can continue to be an all weather nursery and go out and enjoy the big muddy puddles.

### **Starfish**

We would like to welcome Ivy, Eloise, Seren, Natalie, Mya, George, Hugo s, Hugo T, Noah, Lewis and Leon into Starfish. They are beginning to settle well and are already making great progress. We hope they continue to enjoy their time with us.

During March our letter of the month was 'O' A big thank you to Parents that have encouraged their Child to look for things at home and bring them in to show us and

display on our table. This greatly encourages confidence and sense of self-worth when they have something to show and tell. Our book of the month was 'Goldilocks and the three bears' The children explored a goldilocks sensory, and a story basket using puppets. We extended this by using oats in various forms together within our new role play area.

To Further the children's understanding we also had a tasting day with a selection of food products beginning with our letter.

This Month, we will be talking about spring animals, and the changes and effect on the trees and plants around us. The starfish Children can explore our spring transient art activity giving them open ended learning and encouraging personal creativity. We will also be talking about the life cycle of a frog, where we will enjoy a frog spawn sensory to extend our learning.

### **Letter of the Month**

April's letter of the month will be 'P' we will be talking about our letter each Circle time, where we will be encouraging the children to think of things beginning with this letter. To help further their understanding we will incorporate activities such as Pizza making and ping pong painting.

### **Book of the month**

To engage our listening and communication skills and the children's interest, our book will be 'The three little Pigs ' the children will explore a pigs in mud sensory and a story sack using puppets together with our new role play.



### **Role Play**

Our role play this month will be 'The three little Pig's house'; this will link with our story and further their PSED, EAD and communication and language skills. The starfish children have already shown a great interest in this area, using their literacy skills with story sequencing and repeated refrains

### **Shape of the month**

Our shape of the month will be 'Circle' our shape treasure box continues to be a success with the starfish children; they approach it with enthusiasm each day and can't wait for their turn to open the box. We hope that our new starfish children enjoy it as much. The introduction of the box has aided the development of the children's Maths and communication skills. Looking for shapes around the home and environment could also further their development.

### **Colour of the month**



Our colour of the month is brown, we will incorporate this into our spring activities such as planting and bark rubbing. The starfish children will also be experimenting with colours with a colour mixing activity.

### **Just a little reminder:**

Please check your child's pouches. Each month we send home suggested home learning slips, these will give you an insight on the topics we are working on and help you support your child at home in these key areas.

Also please check the starfish information board, here you will find our topics of the month, and your child's interest form to fill in. Could we also ask that all clothing is clearly labelled, including slippers, wellies and shoes.

Thank you for your support  
Joanne, Wendy, Abbie, Hannah and Nicola.

### **Pre School**

During March we looked very closely at similarities and differences. We read various books about what makes us different and unique and the children came up with some very good examples. The children also enjoyed drawing a self-portrait using the mirrors and different coloured skin tone crayons. We then used them to talk about the differences between one another. We also encouraged the children to talk about a certain thing they were good at which make them unique. Our 'wow stars' have had a good impact on this as the children share their achievements from home.

This month we would like to welcome Lucy, Isla, Jack, Iyla, Hetty, Digby and Darcy into pre-school. They have settled very well and already making new friends, we hope they continue to develop and enjoy their time with us

This month we are looking at all things nature, this includes the life cycle of a frog, and the different stages of plants/flowers. There will be plenty of opportunity for children to develop their understanding of the world, cutting skills and sensory exploration.



### **Achievement Board**

Please continue to bring in your child's achievements from home. This is a key element in helping your child develop their confidence and self-esteem as they are able to share it with their peers at circle time. Our 'wow stars' are situated in a wallet on the main pre-school door, please help yourself. We love to hear all about the children's achievements, no matter how big or small.

### **Colour and shape of the month**



This month we will be focusing on the colour Green as we learn about the life cycle of a frog and nature. We will be looking at different shades of green during our tactile and focused activities. Our shape of the month is an oval as suggested by one of our pre-school children.

### **Letter of the week**

For the letter of the month will be starting off with the letter L followed by M,N and O. During our circle times we encourage the children to think of items/objects beginning with this letter. We also provide handwriting sheets each week which allows the children to copy over and attempt to write the letter of the week. This helps to develop their fine motor skills and recognition of letters. Any items you have at home beginning with these letters each week are gratefully received and used as part of our letter of the week box.

### **Book of the month**

This month we are continuing with our theme 'life cycle of a frog'. This is to help develop the children's understanding which will enable them to take part in particular focused activities we have planned around this.

### **Reminders**

As the weather is so temperamental please can you ensure your child is provided with a small bag containing a full change of clothes along with a sun hat. Where possible, please can you ensure your child's items are named. Due to limited space, please can we ask your child has ONE pair of indoor shoes and wellies for the garden (weather permitting) and a SMALL bag that is able to fit on the pegs provided to avoid obstruction to our fire exit.

Please can we remind parents/carer's to call and inform us if your child is going to be absent from nursery for any reason.

### **Dates for the diary**

Sports day - Monday 16th July

End of leaver's party - Friday 20th July

Parents evening - w/c 18th June

Letters for these will follow nearer the time

Many Thanks

Cherye, Emma, Kim and Alec