



# Buckden Day Nursery



## Newsletter

### December 2018

It certainly is beginning to look a lot like Christmas and we are all enjoying getting into the festive spirit! Please can we remind all parents that the nursery does not open between Christmas and New Year. We will close at 4pm on Christmas Eve and will reopen as normal on Wednesday 2nd January. For those who attend term-time only, our autumn term ends on Tuesday 18th December and the spring term will commence on Monday 7th January. If you require any additional sessions then please speak to a member of management.

We are always keen to receive any feedback and would love to hear your views as the year comes to a close. Please feel free to add any comments or suggestions into our feedback box which is located beside the front door. Alternatively, you can email any feedback to [info@buckden-day-nursery.co.uk](mailto:info@buckden-day-nursery.co.uk)

On behalf of everyone at Buckden Day Nursery we would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year



### Kitchen

Please could we remind parents if they would like to request a birthday cake for their child, Susan requires **at least 1 week notice**, due to the dietary requirements of other children in the nursery, making sure there is cake for all! There are a range of flavours including chocolate, vanilla, orange and strawberry and the cost of a birthday cake is £5! There are request forms available on the information shelf next to the stairs and gate to preschool/goldfish.

## Christmas Dinner Day!

Christmas Dinner will be served up on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December including those delicious brussel sprouts!

Please join us in thanking Susan for all the delicious food she has cooked for the children this year!



## Tiddlers & Seahorses

We have been busy welcoming our new friends into nursery and will be continuing to do through December. We hope they enjoy all of our lovely toys and are excited to explore.

During December we are going to be using lots of our senses to explore our tactile tray, using our hands and fine motor skills. In our tactile tray there will be cinnamon scented pinecones and scented leaves available for the children to explore.

We will be continuing our love for story time to expand our communication and language. Throughout December we will be continuing to focus on our Makaton and sign language to support our understanding. Simple and small signs for hello, nappy, please, thank you and more. We have found the babies have picked this up amazingly and are working very hard to explore this more.

Tiddlers and seahorses would like to welcome Sharon back from maternity leave along with baby George. We are welcoming two new ladies working into the baby room, Tori and Estelle. We will be working together to continue our happy, busy and nurturing environment.

The ladies in Seahorses and Tiddlers have been working hard on producing a learning journal book to share with parents of the activities we do, including lots of pictures and comments from our babies. We look forward to sharing this with you.

Please could we take this time to ask parents to contribute to writing their names on labels on their child's belongings as a lot of our babies have the same items.

Thank you, The Baby Room Team!

## Goldfish

This month is Goldfish we are going to be concentrating on Christmas and doing lots of arts and crafts and special gifts based around Christmas.

We will be putting up our Christmas tree with some help from the children and allowing them to explore lots of different Christmas related items in the tactile tray, such as tinsel, bows, wrapping paper and lots more.



We will be using lots of different resources such as paint, glitter and glue to create some handmade Christmas tree decorations. We will also be making some edible goodies and exploring with some green play-dough to create our own Christmas trees.



We would like to wish all of our children and families a wonderful Christmas and a happy new year.

## Seashells

This month we are going to be focusing on celebrating Christmas with the children and trying to incorporate as many areas of the EYFS as we can with different festive activities.



We are going to have a snowy tactile tray with shaving foam, ice and baubles for the children to explore. This activity will develop the understanding of the world for all the children as well as their fine motor skills. We are also going to be doing some festive baking and making some Christmas star biscuits as we talk about the Christmas star. Doing this baking will encourage and develop the art and design skills of the children as well as their maths skills and their understanding of the world.



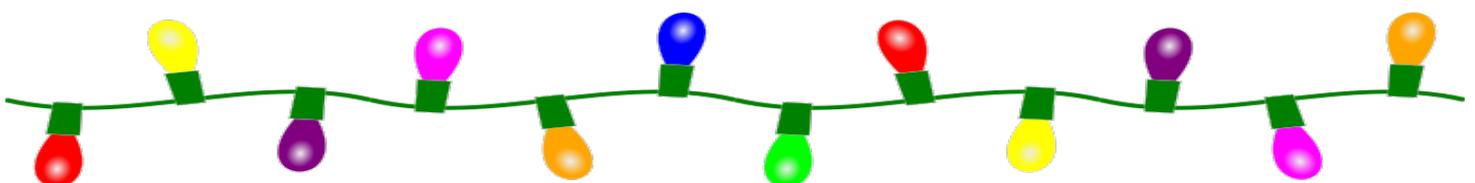
To mark Christmas we are also going to give the children opportunities to make Christmas cards, however, this will be something the children can choose to do as they do not yet all have the understanding behind giving and receiving cards on special occasions. Giving the children this opportunity will develop their personal social and emotional skills, their communication and language and also their literacy skills.

They will also have the chance to get creative and make some reindeer prints and some snowman prints in the art room with paint and other materials. This activity will again work to develop the children's fine motor skills, their art and design skills as well as their understanding of the world. As we do all of these activities we will be encouraging counting and colours with different festive toys such as counting the baubles on the Christmas tree and talking about the colour of the tinsel. Therefore throughout this month we are going to be incorporating all areas of the EYFS through different activities.

We will also be getting festive with songs and stories and having mini parties throughout the month with the disco lights and the inflatable festive figures. If there is anything you would like your child to be doing please let one of us know and we can include this as much as we can through different activities.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Love Seashells



## Starfish

### Winter is approaching!



The Children have enjoyed talking about the different seasons during circle time, they approached it with enthusiasm and have gained awareness of the changes and effects on trees in the environment. We extended their interest, with a walk around the village to collect leaves and acorns, etc. We have also been learning about Remembrance Day, to develop the children's understanding and knowledge of the world our book of the week was '**where the poppies now grow,**' they practiced their communication and listening skills as well as their creativity with various poppy art throughout the week.

### Letter of the month

Our letter of the month for December is '**Dd**' we would like to remind parents about our display table situated in the upstairs hall way, to further the children's knowledge could we ask you to encourage your children to look for things beginning with our letter where we can display and talk about their finds at circle time.

To link in with our letter the children will be exploring a range of sensory activities, developing their knowledge and understanding of the world, as well as their imaginary and exploratory skills.

To support and encourage the children to join in with group discussions we will be talking about letters to Santa, they can also practice their mark making skills by writing their own letter.

### Colour of the month

The colour of the month is White. As the winter approaches we will talk about snow and ice and the effects it has on wildlife. We will also begin to get into the spirit of Christmas with an arrangement of activities such as a Reindeer food, snowmen and Santa's work shop for our role play area and, of course, some special things for their loved ones.



### Book of the month

To further the children's communication and listening skills as well as their understanding, our book of the month will be '**Little Robin Red Vest**' this is a book about sharing and being kind to our friends. We will extend their learning with Transient art and tactile activities; this encourages and develops their creativity and the characteristics of effective learning with having their own ideas.

As the weather is beginning to get colder, could we ask that the children are provided with named woolly hats, gloves, all in ones and wellies as well as a change of clothes please.

We would also like to welcome and Ava to Starfish, she has already begun to settle well and we hope she continues to enjoy her time with us.

Thank you for your support

Joanne, Wendy, Abbie and Hayley & Hanna

## Preschool



### Hello!

Hello, November has been busy with the children exploring festivals such as Diwali and learning about Remembrance Day - including a 2 minute video produced by the BBC to help young children understand the meaning behind it, using animals, the children really enjoyed watching it. In preschool, the children have enjoyed creating a rocket in the construction area which led us to creating our own rockets using junk modelling and providing a sensory tray and board for them to explore and encourage imagination in their role play alongside others. We also provided activities for letters H, I, J, K which consisted of creating a self portrait and adding **HAIR**, adding marshmallows to an **IGLOO**, playing in **JELLY** and creating a **KITE!**



### What's New?

We would like to welcome our new children who have moved down from Starfish to join us on their learning journey before school. We hope you settle in and enjoy what we have to offer in Preschool.

Also, Welcome to Lauren who joined us in the middle of November! Lauren has a Level 3 qualification in childcare and has years of experience in early years and leadership! We are very happy to have her on our team and look forward to hearing her ideas and working together as a team in a busy preschool room!

Our Christmas Play is coming along nicely and the children are singing very well, some even covering their ears when others are singing so loudly, HA HA! We look forward to seeing you on the 14<sup>th</sup> December at the Millennium Hall. If you haven't put your name down for tickets, please speak to a member of staff to secure your tickets.

From our 'sponsored read' many of you took part in, we raised nearly £200, the books arrived in November and the children have enjoyed their new range by sitting in small groups or alone observing the pictures and retelling a story.

### What's Next?

In December, you may have guessed, we will be creating Christmas things! By things, we mean anything Christmassy! Christmas cards, Christmas calendar, Christmas decorations, Christmas play dough, Christmas loose parts, Christmas tactile tray, Christmas home corner etc! We will be doing our standard Christmas creations to take home for keepsakes but we will also be doing lots of winter/Christmas themed activities such as play dough, loose parts, tactile and role play.



During December, we are going to add a special object to sign each morning. We're going to add baubles with each child's name on to encourage them to find their name, recognising letters and then to hang it on the tree.

Our little Elf friend will be making an appearance to preschool in December for some fun! He'll be getting up to mischief and making his presence known! This is all for fun and giggles with the children 😊

**Our Christmas Play is on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 3pm over at the Millennium Hall in Buckden**, next to the park. We are allocating 2 tickets per child, so please ensure you reserve your name by letting one of us know.

We have also arranged another **Christmas Stay and Play**. We're inviting you to come in and join in with festivities with your child through a range of Christmas activities. We will be holding this on **Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup>, Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> and Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December between 2 and 3pm**. Like the Spooky Stay and Play, come in at 2 and enjoy getting creative and messy with your child then leave and will resume the day as normal. It's a chance for the children to show you what we get up to in Preschool and a chance for you to see how we do things also. Also, it's a great opportunity to talk to staff members. Let a member of staff know which date you'd like to do, so we can book you in.



### Reminders:

- Please could you provide your child with a hat, scarf and gloves to store in their bags as the weather is changing! Brrrrr.
- If your child has developed a specific interest at home/over the weekend please let us know so as a key worker we can extend their learning and development.

Thank you for reading; we're excited for what the next month holds for learning, exploration and creativity. If you have any queries, please speak to a member of staff who will be able to help you 😊

We wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy new Year! We look forward to seeing you in January ready to play and learn!

From Sophie, Kim, Elicia, Lauren and Jordan

