

NEWSLETTER _ February 2017

Hi Everyone,

I hope you all had a good half term. I think Spring is on the way, albeit slightly early. The seasons are somewhat confused these days, but I am not complaining when for the past few mornings, I have been woken by sunshine, birds singing and warmer air, not greyness!

Speaking of Spring, we are busy planning and preparing for our planting in the next couple of months. We shall be planting garlic, onions and various other herbs and vegetables, as well as beautifully scented lavender etc. Of course, we shall, as always, be planting our potatoes out when the frost has disappeared (they have already been 'chitted' and are sitting on our radiators in egg boxes growing roots!) There is nothing that makes the children happier than planting seeds and bulbs and seeing the plants growing and most of all, picking the produce when it is ready. We shall also be planting bulbs in the car park area with the children.

Here are a couple of dates for your diaries:

FRIDAY, 24TH FEBRUARY - MR. PICKLES DRUM AND PERCUSSION/RHYTHM WORKSHOP - All children are welcome to attend this workshop. Please let Miss Simi know if you would like to come in for this amazing session. I cannot tell you how much the children love experimenting with rhythms and generally exploring the wonderful array of instruments Mr. Pickles brings. Two of our children have shown great talent in this area and are now going to outside drum/ percussion classes because of these sessions. It really helps all children to attend and those with co-ordination issues are massively helped by these workshops. The Montessori Organisation published an article on Mr. Pickles' (my husband, Pick, in real life) work with the children because rhythm and different degrees of sound are a big part of Montessori learning. Also, I feel we are very privileged to have an eminent drummer and percussionist such as Pick, teaching our little ones. He has performed drum clinics all over the world for well known musicians, would be drummers and percussionists as well as children in primary and secondary schools and his pioneering work is well renowned. Please take advantage of this wonderful session.

FRIDAY, 3RD MARCH - WORLD BOOK DAY. Please send your child into Nursery dressed as their favourite book character and bring a favourite book too.

FRIDAY, 31ST MARCH - 11 AM - EASTER EGG HUNT AND SING SONG - Parents are invited to join our Egg Hunt. Please bring in a small Easter egg which will be hidden in the garden for them to find. We ask that all eggs are no bigger than a Kinder egg so that we do not have some children with big eggs and others with tiny ones, as there might be a mutiny!

EGGS NEED TO BE BROUGHT INTO NURSERY BY 31ST MARCH. The children will be singing some lovely songs for you too.

WEEK BEGINNING 20TH MARCH - MOTHER'S DAY/EASTER AND SPRING CRAFTS SESSIONS for GRANDPARENTS, MOTHERS AND FATHERS TO ATTEND WITH CHILDREN - We should like to invite parents and grandparents into Nursery to work on crafts for the above celebrations with their children. These sessions will take place on the following dates and times:

MONDAY, 20TH MARCH - 9.30 AM - 10.30 AM

WEDNESDAY, 21ST MARCH - 9.30 AM - 10.30 AM

THURSDAY, 22ND MARCH - 9.30 AM - 10.30 AM

FRIDAY - 23RD MARCH - 9.30 AM - 10.30 AM

PLEASE BOOK YOUR DAY AS WE CAN ONLY OFFER 5 SLOTS PER DAY

The children will love and benefit from spending this hour with you making gifts and crafts

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We are starting our schedule of work for children leaving us in the Summer as, frighteningly, it's not long away! We are beginning to prepare them for primary school and after Easter, when we enter our Summer Term, we will be using our Transition Zone to work with children entering school after the summer holidays, so that they have the necessary skills and appropriate behaviour needed for a smooth transition from nursery to primary school.

The whole world is talking about mental health and so they should be in these troubled times. I believe that we must do everything we can to calm our minds and bodies and this should start as young as possible. Jo Wilson, our wonderful Yoga teacher, who used to run her own nursery, does some fantastic work with the children and they love her sessions. We notice how visibly calmer they are after yoga, so please let us know if you would like to join these classes on Tuesday afternoons. Don't forget, you can bring your child in just for the session on Tuesday afternoons from **1.30 pm - 2.30 pm.**

I think that's all for now. Please do not hesitate to talk to staff, telephone or e.mail us if you have any questions about the above information.

See you all soon.

Linda

