

# The Lawns Nursery School Newsletter November 2018

## The Children's Learning

Welcome to the second half of the Autumn Term. We hope that you all had a super half term holiday break (seems a long time ago already) and have adjusted to the darker nights.

The children have been busy, busy, busy and we are always amazed by the children's curiosity and the amazing questions they ask such as "where does the rain come from?"



As you will know we follow the children's interests when it comes to planning and at the moment they are really interested in exploring army based games through their role-play. This has led to further interesting questions such as "can girls be soldiers?" We have shown the children images of female and male soldiers and talked to them about their roles. Together the children have built camps and dens in the garden and camouflaged themselves with paint they have made themselves from natural materials. They make up stories and talk to each other about their individual roles within their play, negotiating plans and writing them down. This is fantastic for their communication, writing and language skills.

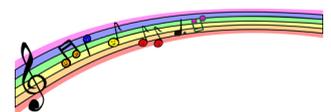
In honour of remembrance day the children have also made their own poppies. We are aware that some of our children's parents are in the army and we would be really grateful if any of you could spare a few minutes to come into The Lawns and share something such as your uniform, photographs or just have a chat about what being a soldier is really like.

Please speak to a member of the Nursery team if you are able to help us with this at all. Many thanks.



## Fundraising

Thank you to everyone who donated and purchased cakes at our recent cake sale. We raised £165.35 and have used this money to purchase some new musical instruments and other resources for our updated music cabin. You can read more about the music cabin and how to support your child's learning on the back page of the newsletter. When it is completely finished we will share pictures with you in the next newsletter.



# Christmas Singing Celebration

Please see the poster attached for details of your child's Christmas Singing Celebration which will take place on the last day of school, 19th December at 11.00am and 2.15pm. Parents and carers are invited to come along and join in with the children singing all of the festive songs they will have been learning this term. We have attached the words to the songs with this newsletter. Due to space we request that you attend one or the other of the performances if your child attends all day. If your child does not normally attend on a Wednesday you are welcome to bring them in to join in with a performance on the day, if so please arrive five minutes before the performance time.



*Sounds  
of the  
Season*

## Christmas Raffle

We will be holding a Christmas Raffle from Monday 3rd December for two weeks. There will be the chance to win a 'Christmas Food and Drink Hamper' and a 'Children's Christmas Hamper'. All contents will have been donated by the Nursery Staff as our way of saying thank you to you all for your support and wishing you a very Merry Christmas! Tickets will be able to be purchased from the office for £1 for 5 and it will be drawn on Friday 14th December.



REMEMBER

## A Couple of Reminders

- If children suffer from a stomach bug - diarrhoea or vomiting, the local Health Authority state that they should not return to School/Nursery until they have been symptom free for 48 hours.
- Keep encouraging your child to practise putting on their scarf, hat, gloves, wellies and coat independently and make sure that they come appropriately dressed for the weather.
- Please share your child's learning stories with them at home and record your comments about your child's learning and fascinations for us to use when planning for them.
- There is a lot coming up in Nursery this term so don't forget to check your emails and the noticeboard in the Nursery entrance as well as the Dates for your Diary section overleaf.

## Dates for your Diary

**Friday 16th November** - Children in Need, wear spots or fancy dress for a donation.

**Wednesday 14th November** - Zoolab reptile workshop visiting Nursery.

**Friday 7th December** - Nursery trip to Norden Farm theatre . **Nursery is closed all day to-day.**

**Wednesday 12th December** - Santa's Grotto visiting Nursery.

**Wednesday 19th December** - Christmas Party and Christmas Singing Celebration 11.00am and 2.15pm (see poster attached). Nursery closes at 3:30pm for the Christmas holidays

**Thursday 3rd January** - **NURSERY CLOSED** - **STAFF TRAINING DAY**

**Friday 4th January** - **NURSERY CLOSED**. Home visits for new children.

**Monday 7th January** - **NURSERY CLOSED**. Home visits for new children.

**Tuesday 8th January** - **NURSERY CLOSED**. New entrants day for new children.

**Wednesday 9th January** - **CHILDREN RETURN TO NURSERY**. New children will have allocated slots to start over the first week.

## Parent Partnership

Children's progress chats are scheduled to begin during the week of 19th November 2018. These are important to be able to share with parents/carers how well the children have settled at The Lawns and also to show the progress the children are making and what they have been learning.

Please see your child's key person to book an appointment. If you are unable to make any of the dates/ time allocated then please do let us know and we can make alternative arrangements.

## Children in Need



We are supporting Children in Need on Friday 16th November. Children can wear anything spotty or fancy dress for £1 donation that goes towards helping disadvantaged children throughout the UK. We thank you for your support in helping us to raise money for a very worthy cause.

# School Applications

Online admissions is now open for children eligible to start school next September 2019.

Closing date - Tuesday 15 January 2019 (Midday)

Extended deadline for exceptional circumstances - Wednesday 30 January 2019

National Offer Day - Tuesday 16 April 2019

Respond to a school place offer - Wednesday 1 May 2019

Waiting list positions for all applicants and late applicant offers - from May 2019

Further information can be found :

[https://www3.rbwm.gov.uk/download/downloads/id/4052/admission\\_into\\_primary\\_school\\_september\\_2019.pdf](https://www3.rbwm.gov.uk/download/downloads/id/4052/admission_into_primary_school_september_2019.pdf)

Our advice is to look around a few schools during the working day and this should give you a feel for the school that will 'fit' your child best. In order to have more chance of getting the school at the top of your list make sure that you do not miss the application deadline.



## Music Cabin

The staff used the INSET day on Monday 29th October to update and replenish the music cabin in the outdoor area. For a while we have been researching and planning ways to improve our environment to incorporate more musical learning. All vocal **communication** is comprised of musical elements such as pitch, rhythm and timbre, demonstrating that musicality is an intrinsic part of being human. Music should be seen as a core component of children's learning and should be shared with young children to ensure they have broad, balanced and rounded experiences in early childhood and beyond. The four aspects of musical learning and development are - Listening and hearing; Vocalising and singing; Moving and Dancing and Exploring and playing. Musical development also helps children with early literacy skills and early mathematical skills. Some ideas to help you support your child's musical development are:

- Play sound-matching games e.g. make sounds by banging utensils, putting different materials in containers that children can't see and invite children to make a matching sound or describe it..
- Make some musical shakers using different materials e.g. yogurt pots filled with sand, rice, cotton wool, pebbles etc. Talk about whether the sound is loud, soft, quiet etc.
- Clap/stamp, tap out different rhythms using body parts –can your child join in, copy and continue the rhythm?
- Encourage children to listen to a wide range of music so that music is not limited to music for “types” of people. Talk about the different instruments you can hear.

