



Cookham Nursery School Newsletter November 2019

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.

Thank you to the parents who were able to 'Come and Play' on Wednesday 6th November. The children and staff team loved having you here. Some parents commented on the numerous authentic trinkets, glass and china objects and interesting pieces that we have in the nursery. These provocations enhance children's curiosity and their sense of exploration and discovery. When children are curious they want to investigate, when they investigate they discover...and when they discover, they are learning.



Quiz Help

After our extremely successful fundraising Quiz Night which was held at the Cricket Club last March, Jess Lowry (William's Mum) and Victoria Strudwick (Jasper's Mum) have already done an AMAZING job of getting next year's Quiz Night off the ground. This will be held at The Cookham Cricket Club on Thursday March 26th so please save the date! It looks like turning into a fabulous fundraiser and a great fun night out. Jess, Victoria and Fiona (Greenwood) would love some help in the planning so if you have a bit of time to spare, please call/text Jess on 07711 432109.

Water Play Area

After securing our last bit of fundraising we were able to go ahead with the building of our Water Play Area. We wanted the area to be as natural as possible to blend in with the rest of our garden and enhance the way children learn best—through exploration and engagement.



We are thrilled with the results! The children are fully focused on filling, emptying, water movement and dam building. Team work is key, with children talking about and planning projects. The pebbles have been an added bonus - the children have loved studying the different patterns, sizes and shapes as well as watching how they look when they are wet and dry. Thank you to everyone who supported our fundraising over the year.

REMEMBER

A couple of reminders

- Please can we remind all parents to park responsibly, keeping our neighbours' drive-ways access clear and avoid using the disabled space unless you have permission to do so.
- For the children's safety please ensure that you always close the gates and front door as you enter and leave Nursery.
- 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 make sure you name all of these items clearly.



Dates for your Diary

Friday 15th November - Children in Need.

Wednesday 4th December - Decorating the Christmas tree and singing some Christmas songs. Parents and carers are invited to support and be in our audience. 11.15am and 2.30pm.

Friday 6th December - Nursery trip to Norden Farm theatre. **Nursery is closed all day today.** The Theatre trip is in the afternoon.

Friday 20th December - Christmas Party for all children. 9.15 am to 11.45 am. **There is no early drop, lunch club or afternoon session today. Nursery closes at 11.45am for the Christmas holidays.**

Monday 6th and Tuesday 7th January 2020 - Nursery closed for Home Visits to new children

Wednesday 8th January 2020 - New entrants into Nursery only.

Thursday 9th January 2020 - ALL CHILDREN RETURN TO NURSERY.

Children in Need



We are supporting Children in Need on Friday 15th November. We have some fun activities planned such as baking with the children and learning some Pudsey yoga moves.

Please can the children bring in some coins - (large and small coins) to make a money line in the Nursery. We are going to see how long our line can be..... but we also want to raise as much money as we can for Children in Need.

School Applications

Online admissions is now open for children eligible to start school next September 2020.

Closing date - Wednesday 15 January 2020 (Midday)

National Offer Day - Thursday 16 April 2020

Parents/carers of children born between 1st April and 31st August 2016 can apply to defer entry into school by a year. Please see guidance on this in the Admission into Primary School guide on the RBWM website:

https://www3.rbwm.gov.uk/download/downloads/id/4563/school_admissions_guide_primary_2020.pdf

Our advice is to look around a few schools, within your catchment area, 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

Music is a great medium for developing children's attention and listening skills and their understanding and expression of language. It is also great for enhancing early maths skills due to its repetitive and steady beat. Singing and dancing is usually very enjoyable for young children and unlike some adults they tend to throw themselves wholeheartedly into experiences. Whilst we encourage children to listen to and join in with recordings they have a fixed tempo and do not allow for adaptation whereas the live sung voice and the human interaction that comes with singing is irreplaceable. 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. Play stop and start games allowing your child to lead the game.
- 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.
- Sing regularly and use a wide range of songs and rhymes
- Make up songs for everyday routines - change the way you sing e.g. sing quietly, rapidly, slowly, sadly, joyfully etc.
- Make up new songs to familiar tunes.

