



Nursery Newsletter January 2018

We would like to welcome all the lovely new families who have joined us over the past few months.

Staffing

Ellie has started working full time in the Over Two's room.

Laura will be leaving on Wednesday 21st February to start maternity leave. We have recruited Renate as temporary Nursery Manager to cover the duration of Laura's maternity leave. Renate will officially start at Josephs on Monday 19th February.

Training

Naomi has started her EYITT training (early years initial teacher training) to become qualified as an Early Years Teacher. Naomi will have designated time during the week to study and will have some placement days.

Delta is completing a course in Team Leading.

Laura A has is completing a Management Level 3 course.

Dates for your diary

Thursday 1st March- World Book Day

We are celebrating world book day by dressing up as our favourite book characters! Please feel free to join us in dressing up! We will be giving out world book tokens to everyone very soon!

Wednesday 7th March- Mother's Day Afternoon Tea! 2.15-3.30

Calling all Mums, Grandma's and Auntie's to come and join us for some afternoon tea and Mother's Day themed activities. We hope to see you there!

Baby Buttercups

We would like to welcome all of our new starters to the Baby Buttercup's room!

Baby Room Project

Alison, Emma, Laura H, Melissa, Katie and Charlotte all completed The Baby Room Project over three Saturdays from July to October. This course was to further the staffs

knowledge about how a baby's brain develops and what we can do as practitioners to support their learning and development through various activities. We have made new resources such as sensory bottles, ribbon rings and dolly pegs, a sensory trail, black and white area and sensory area. We loved the giant floor painting activity and have introduced a 'My Family' book so we can look at photos of our families in quiet times to promote language, social and emotional skills. If you would like to get involved, please feel free to bring in your families photos with names/relations or send them to us via email and we can print them off at nursery. If you would like to see what activities we have been doing regarding the Baby Room Project, please see our display board on the cupboard door opposite the main Baby room entrance.

Role Play Area

We have really enjoyed making lots of lovely art



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work for our new Circus Role play area. We used paper plates to make elephant and clown faces, crepe paper, foil and tissue paper to make lions and have introduced a circus tent, ball pool, giant soft blocks and soft animals to play with.

We are going to turn our role play area back into a home corner in the next week or so using pots, pans, spoons, food, dollies and dressing up clothes to promote their imaginative play.

Outdoors

We have managed to get up to the Forest School and play in the garden before the grass became too boggy. We are planning to take the children on some Spring walks to Homestead, down by the river, to museum gardens and the local library so we'll keep you posted with the dates.

Activities

We have enjoyed doing lots of messy play recently. Giant floor painting, shaving foam, shredded paper play,

water/aqua play and flour play. We enjoy making marks, painting using different tools and exploring various textures.

Displays

We have recently updated our display boards in the room. A lot of the older babies love the 'Stickman' book and so we have made a lovely display, getting the children to paint their own stickman using sticks and leaves from the garden.

As Equal opportunities rep, Katie has updated her display getting inspiration from 'The Rainbow Fish' story. The children were able to use old CD's to stick lots of shiny foils and materials on to create their own individual fish as the story represents diversity.

We are currently updating our staff team and key person board which we will display very soon!

What we're doing next

There are lots of events and celebrations happening over the next couple of

months which we would like to tell you about.

We will be celebrating Chinese New Year, Valentine's Day, Pancake Day and Holi to name a few!

Watch out for photos and observations of your little ones on Tapestry to see everything we get up to and feel free to add your own videos, photos and observations.

Charlotte, Laura A, Katie, Alison, Laura H, Melissa, Kirsty and Emma.

Dancing Daisies and Super Sunflowers

In the moment planning

In the Over Two's room we have recently introduced 'in the moment' planning.

In essence, the concept is a child-centred approach which encourages children's natural desire to explore and learn by providing them with a safe and enabling environment to support their interests and then



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extend on this where needed. We continue to offer core provision and then tune into the children during their play to look out for their interests and next steps and then plan accordingly in the moment to extend their learning further.

Weather

Due to the ongoing weather changes happening at the moment the children have been very curious about different types of weather. We have been lucky enough to experience some snow and had fun running around the garden in it! We have also enjoyed getting on our wellies and waterproofs and exploring the huge puddles in the field and garden! We have also enjoyed doing some weather related creative activities whilst inside such as making our own rainbows, clouds, umbrellas and sunshine's! We have been telling the ladies how different types of weather make us feel e.g. happy, sad, and scared.

People who help us

There is an ongoing interest in people who help us! The children love to dress up as police officers, fire fighters and doctors in our roleplay areas, act out different things from their experiences and make up their own stories. We are hoping to organise for a real police officer to come into nursery to see us and show us his/her police van!

Spanish!

Sam is learning to speak Spanish and loves to teach the children too! During morning register Sam says Hola instead of hello or Buenos días instead of good morning, which the children find highly amusing! Sam is also introducing counting in Spanish and colour names. The children really enjoy this time with Sam and they all demonstrate great listening and attention skills!

Self-portraits and writing names

The pre-schoolers have been drawing their own self-portraits and talking

about what makes them different to others e.g. hair colour, eye colour, skin colour. They then all used name cards to copy their names onto the bottom of their portrait. They all did a great job of this, showing amazing pencil control.

What we're doing next

Over the next few weeks we will be celebrating Chinese New Year and changing our role-play area into a Chinese house! There are also lots of other festivals and celebrations coming up such as Valentine's Day, Pancake Day, St David's Day, and Holi (along with lots more!).

Delta, Claire, Kirsty, Michelle, Sue, Ellie, Naomi and Sam.

Early Years Funding/Occupancy

The nursery occupancy has dramatically increased. We now have **very** limited availability in both rooms.

If you are thinking of increasing your hours please could you let Laura know as soon as possible so



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we can check we have availability.

Please can I remind you all that the notice period for leaving or reducing sessions is 2 months written notice.

30 hours funding

If you are eligible for 30 hours funding, please remember to log onto your account every 3 months to confirm your eligibility. If you don't log in it will affect us being able to claim funding for your child.

If your child is eligible for 30 hours funding from April, please could you provide us with your 11-digit eligibility code and your national insurance number as soon as possible. Thank you!

Lost property

We have a large amount of lost property which has been stored in the lost property box in the entrance foyer. Please feel free to have a look through

the box to see if anything belongs to you.

Tapestry

We would love to see more parents uploading photos to tapestry of what the children have been doing at home or on holiday! It helps us to plan exciting activities around the children's interests and next steps. Please let a member of staff know if you are having trouble logging in 😊

Car Park

Please could I politely remind parents that unfortunately you are unable to leave your cars in the nursery car park during the day. We have a large amount of staff cars from Josephs, head office and other York Childcare staff that we need to accommodate and most days it is extremely full. We aim to keep the side car park (next to the kitchen) empty so that we can take bikes out into the car park to play whilst the garden is flooded. Thank you for your cooperation.

We welcome new ideas and involvement in nursery life from parents and carers. If you would like to discuss any ideas please do not hesitate to speak to me or email

josephs@yorkchildcare.co.uk

Thank you for your continued support.

Laura and the Team.