

Newsletter

January / February 2018



Invest ... in the best!
The Lyme Nursery
complete nursery day care
7.00 am - 6.00 pm
Monday - Friday
01782 616188
www.lymenurseryschool.co.uk

Welcome to our first on-line Newsletter for 2018. The months of January and February seem to have flown by with Santa Claus and Christmas being somewhat of the distant past! Having spoken to the children and parents it seems that everyone had a wonderful Christmas break but were all looking forward to "getting back to normal and in routine". We've welcomed some new babies and children, together with their families this past nine weeks which has been really lovely. It's always a pleasure to hear from our new families just how warm and welcoming the Nursery is and how much they feel at home from their first visit. January was also the month that some of the children made the transition into a new group having had taster sessions throughout December. It can be a daunting time for parents seeing their little ones move on through the Nursery but not generally for the children themselves—they love their new groups, peers and carers!



In February we said a tearful farewell to Jan Mack who as our longest serving staff member (joining the Nursery in September 1996) entered the wonderful world of retirement with her husband, Phil. Jan has been an outstanding carer here at the Nursery and to hundreds of families over the past 21½ years. Everyone who has ever had a cuddle from Jan knows just how special they are. We couldn't possibly imagine just how many story books Jan has read or nursery rhymes she has sung over the years! We all send Jan and Phil our very best wishes for their future.

MEET THE TEAM:- HANNAH HALLAM

In January we welcomed Hannah Hallam to the position of Nursery Cook, replacing Jenny Broad who retired at Xmas. Hannah, who's a mum to 3 year old Elsie is also experienced in large scale catering and nutrition. She has quickly stepped into this challenging role and to add further relief to the Nursery says, "she loves it!". So glad to have you on board Hannah!

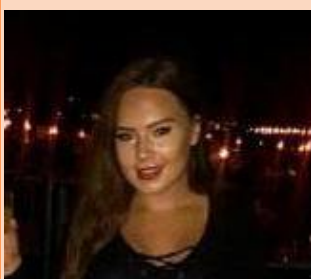


Room of the Month

Last year we introduced 'Room of the Month' here at Nursery. We thought it would be a lovely way to congratulate the groups for the work they do in their rooms, with the children and their wall displays. It was such a delight to announce at the end of December that every group had won! Each month we gather the children in the hallway to announce the winner(s) and everyone claps and cheers! At the end of January it was a pleasure to give the Toddler group the certificate. Wishy the Fishy has certainly been a big hit! Well done Leanne, Maria & Toddlers!

MODERN APPRENTICE UPDATE

As we informed you back in December, there has been a very successful rotation of the Nursery's Modern Apprentices who have quickly settled into their new groups and have certainly made good impressions with the children. Sadly we said goodbye to Charlie after a short spell here at Nursery. Charlie decided to head for a career in the finance area and we wish her all the best. We have recently employed two further apprentices —Georgia Springett and Jessica Martin who are both working towards their Early Years Childcare qualification. We'd like to wish them both a very warm welcome from everyone here at Nursery and look forward to working with them for the remainder of their modern apprenticeship.



Dates for your diary:-

Friday 30th March to Tuesday 3rd April (inc) - Nursery closed for Easter.
Wednesday 25th April 2018—Paolo Loraso Nursery photographer (am only).
Thursday 3rd May 2018—Parents Evening 7pm—9pm.

Government Funding—Summer Term 2018

Summer Term will commence on 2nd April 2018 through to 31st August 2018. Please see the notice in the hallway for a list of NON-FUNDED WEEKS (which includes the schools 2 week Easter break, even for stretched placements). If you have any questions on funding please contact Vera on info@lymenurseryschool.co.uk

Funding 2,3,4 Year Olds

Could you be entitled to government funding? To find out please click the link below and follow the instructions to see if you are eligible:

<https://www.gov.uk/help-with-childcare-costs/free-childcare-and-education-for-2-to-4-year-olds>

Over the last couple of months our Baby group have enjoyed creating a new wall display with a garden theme. All of the babies have made a beautiful blob and fold butterfly with pastel colours as well as hand-print flowers. There's no way we can have a garden theme without singing along to one of our favourite songs, "There's a Worm at the Bottom of the Garden ... and his name is Wiggly Woo". Babies also finished their Winter wall, adding some lovely red robins made out of their hand-prints and little tiny foot-print snowmen. The mark-making wall was also fun to create using a variety of different materials such as rollers, stampers and chalk. In February we celebrated Valentine's Day by making our Mummies and Daddys a very cute card which they all loved. We also did some baking, attempting to hold the spoon and mix the ingredients as best we can! We also coloured in some pictures to celebrate Chinese New Year and they were so good that we put them up on the entrance door to the Baby room! Finally who can beat tuft spot play ... we love it!



Molly and Natalie have been working so hard with the Tiddlers in January and February. Their "Red" themed wall is jam packed full of different pictures. Tiddlers have painted, coloured and used lots of different types of materials to create the masterpiece! To continue with colour recognition work Tiddlers also have a new circle time area with a variety of flashcards including colours. After breakfast Molly or Natalie sit on the floor with the children and hold out the flashcards one at a time asking the Tiddlers, "What's this colour?" We also have flashcards that show numbers (1 to 10), animals and transport. After song-time and story-time it's then time for either outdoor play or creative activities. The four seasons display was also fun to create. For Winter there were robins and snowflakes, cute little lambs and chicks in Spring, sunshines and lollies for Summer and finally hand-print hedgehogs and painted leaves for the Autumn area. The Tiddler room is certainly never still or quiet (unless it's lunch or sleep time). They love playing with musical instruments, the dressing up box, tents, tunnels and the ball pit—not to mention the sensory toys, the tuft spot trays and MESSY play!



Our Toddlers have had such an amazing start to 2018. They welcomed the year in with a new friend, 'Wishy the fishy' who they absolutely adore! 'Wishy' was named after how some of the children pronounced fishy, which is so cute. The children have helped Leanne and Maria look after Wishy by making sure he is fed everyday! The children are doing a brilliant job and Wishy always looks so happy swimming up and down his tank! The Toddler room is always covered head to toe with amazing creative displays but from feedback we've received Maria's artwork on the Toddlers window looks truly amazing. The children love the display and always point at all the sea animals. The children love messy play and getting creative with paint, crayons, glue and tissue paper! They are always helping to make the Toddler room look incredible with displays such as; under the sea, aquarium plates and the art wall. The children have also been learning about recycling and have been helping to sort the recycling found in their classroom. They then put the rubbish into the correct bins in the kitchen with help from Leanne and Maria. They loved shouting and pointing at what bins they thought the recycling might belong in. As The Toddlers have been so helpful Leanne and Maria introduced 'special helper' into their daily routine to reward the children for being so good. The special helper picks what toy box they would like out and at lunch time they give out the water cups to their friends! Well done Toddlers.



Joining Nic in the Juniors classroom from January 2018 was Abie. Abie has settled into the Juniors routine really well and is a huge hit with the children! This year one topic that the Juniors have been looking at is feelings. In circle time they've talked about different feelings that they have at different times of the day and in different situations. We have printed out a variety of children's faces showing various emotions, such as happy, excited, shy, sad and poorly and also printed out the matching word (to help encourage letter and word recognition). Juniors have also created a large '2018 Calendar' wall display which lists all of the festivals, celebrations and fundays for the year. As the months go by the Juniors will create lots of different artwork relative to the celebration for their wall. Baking has also been on their agenda, as you can see from the picture everyone gets involved. This time around the Juniors made Oreo cakes! Another interesting topic for the Juniors has been looking at their senses. One day they tasted different fruits, another day they smelled and touched a variety of different items. They have created a wonderful wall display showing how they have been exploring their senses. Every group here at Nursery has a daily routine that they work to. The Juniors have transferred this onto one of their walls using photographs to highlight the different times of the day. Without realising the children are learning about time.



Since January Pre-school have been learning about others through equality and diversity alongside their topic 'All About Me'. The children discuss why and how they are all different to their friends, looking at their hair colour, eye-colour, skin colour, being a boy or a girl yet at the same time accepting that it's okay to have these visual differences. Jade and Georgia have talked to the children about the world being full of people who are different, this could be race, religion, language etc. They have expressed how important it is to respect others and treat everybody the same. Part of the Pre-school Rules, located in the room is about being kind and caring to others. Emotions have also been a topic with the children expressing how they feel—and mostly, it's great to say that their answer is always HAPPY! They created some fabulous paper plate self portraits for their All About Me wall using a variety of materials and also painted some fantastic 'Earth' pictures. A different type of self-portrait that they created was made out of food! Using cucumber, sweetcorn, cheese and peppers for their facial features and a tortilla wrap for their face, Pre-school had so much fun, yet the best bit was obviously eating them all up! Jolly Phonics has continued to be part of their daily routine, practising the recognition and sounding out of letters. What a clever bunch!



The Senior's have had a jam packed couple of months full of fun and learning. Making their own bread is always a favourite, kneading the dough (at which they are experts) the children then send their piece down to the kitchen where it's cooked and then returned to Seniors so that they can have it for their afternoon snack! Seniors also particularly enjoyed their own Princess/Superheroes funday, all transforming themselves into a different character for the day! The children had to create for themselves the perfect superhero cape and superhero name, listing what their super powers were! Captain Backwards (Mandi) even came to visit the Seniors with her hat, coat and slippers on BACKWARDS, walking backwards, counting backwards and saying the alphabet starting with the letter 'Z'! "No", the children cried, the alphabet starts with 'A'! The children thought this was so funny they made Captain Backwards her very own cape. The children also took part in a variety of activities such as:- princess colouring-in pictures, baking delicious paw patrol cakes, reading superhero and princess stories and drinking their very own superhero milkshakes! The Seniors learning theme over the last couple of months has been habitats. They've learned about what kind of habitats there are and what animals live in what habitat. The display was made by all the children as they were very creative using hand and foot prints for animals. Our Senior staff have also been focussing on teaching the children to share and take turns, through playing games like slides and ladders and lotto games. With the children working together in small groups they are developing interaction and communication skills, together with learning how to work in a team. All this is in preparation for the next stage of our Seniors life... going to school!

