

# Newsletter

## March—June Newsletter 2019



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Welcome to our latest Newsletter. Here is our chance to tell you all about what's been going on around the Nursery over the last few months. It was busy from the very start, as on Saturday 2nd March our staff happily came into Nursery to receive their updated paediatric first aid training. From sprains and fractures to choking and CPR our staff covered all aspects of first aid within the Nursery. Here's a few pictures of the girls practising their skills.



### Butterflies:-

Looking after our butterflies was bundles of fun. Seeing them as tiny baby caterpillars, to turning into cocoons and then transforming into butterflies was just truly amazing. All of the children (and staff) loved every minute of caring for them.



### Staff updates:-

It's all still about babies here at Nursery, with Samera and Abie both starting their maternity leave in March and April respectively. Samera's bundle of joy arrived on Mother's Day and little Eliza weighed in at 6lb 14oz. Both have been into Nursery already for cuddles and are doing fabulously. The children were so excited to see Samera again, and of course with her baby. Abie's



little girl Avah entered the world on the 27th May weighing 7lb 14oz. We are looking forward to meeting Avah and giving both her and the new mummy a big squeeze. To cover Samera during her maternity we have appointed fully qualified Charlotte who comes with over 3 years' experience and knowledge from another setting. The babies have already taken to Charlotte, her calming influence ensures that our babies feel loved, happy and secure. Finally, to finish off our baby news, we are so delighted to announce (for those of you who don't know already), that our lovely Natalie is also expecting! Natalie is currently over half way through her pregnancy and is due in September, so we have all summer to watch her baby bump grow!

### Spring Parents Evening 2019 (10th April):-

As usual our Spring Parents Evening was amazing. The comments we receive every year show how much the Nursery is truly loved and appreciated. Parents Evening is great for both parent communication (to answer any questions or queries you have) and for parents to have an insight of what their child gets up to on a regular day at Nursery by looking at the children's folders, viewing photo's that we've taken and seeing the artwork that's been created. Thank you to everyone for your loyalty, support and kind words, they are very much appreciated.

### WORLD BOOK DAY—7th MARCH!

What fun we all



had on World Book Day! Thank you for taking part and dressing up. We looked amazing and enjoyed our tea-party.

## EASTER FUN WEEK!



The effort that everyone put into making their Easter Bonnets was just amazing! It was such a hard decision to choose the overall winners. In our eyes, everyone was a winner. The children were happy hunting for Easter eggs around the garden, but the best bit of all was when they were told they could eat their egg!

### Frogspawn?

Our Pre-school group are looking out for some frogspawn. Do you have, or know of anyone who would be able to donate some to Nursery?



### Afternoon Snack:-

Please can we kindly remind all parents that our afternoon snack is not intended as a replacement for an evening meal. It is served between 3.30pm and 4.00pm and the portion sizes are a recommendation taken from the NHS guidelines. Lunch here at Nursery is served at 12.00 noon and therefore a small portion of food/fruit mid-afternoon is offered to the children to keep them going until they're home in time for the family evening meal.

Garden Competition:- During the month of May the staff from each room all worked so hard creating their very own area in the garden, using as little money as possible and as much recyclable goods they can find that the children can enjoy. We posted pictures of the areas on Facebook and in our porch and asked for parent participation to vote for their favourite area. A big THANK YOU to everybody who voted, the response was huge with over 100 votes. The result was so close with only 1 point determining first place. We were delighted to announce that the overall winner was 'The Lyme Nursery's Got Talent Stage' (number 3 on the Facebook post). A huge WELL DONE to both Laura and Maria from Juniors for coming up with an amazing area that all the children, from all groups are thoroughly enjoying! The Juniors have won £50 to spend on a range of new resources for their room. Well done though to every room, you all did a fabulous job.



In May 2019 we introduced our new tablet (First Steps software) and the Parent Link App after years of handwritten diaries and paperwork. One month on and we believe the tablets are really successful and a great way to communicate with parents. We've already received lots of feedback highlighting how happy parents are. As many of you know, with new technology comes a few teething problems, so if you are still struggling with your new app please feel free to contact us via email or telephone, we are always happy to help and answer any questions or queries you may have.

Here is a quick recap of our new apprentice room change (from w/c 17th June); Babies; Leanne, Charlotte & Maria. Tiddlers; Jade, Billie & Natalie. Toddlers; Hannah & Lorraine. Juniors; Laura & Georgia. Seniors; Molly & Sasha. Pre-school; Kelly, Isobel & Jess. All the staff are super excited to create new bonds and mostly have lots of fun.



**Bake-a-thon May 2019:-** WOW! What a week we had. The amount of cakes, cookies, brownies etc that were brought in by our fabulous customers was amazing, thank you all so much. Our hallway was FULL of cakes all week long which is what we like to see (and eat)! Let's also not forget our Nursery children in Babies, Tiddlers, Toddlers, Juniors, Seniors, Pre-school plus all staff who spent the week baking delicious treats to sell at the end of the day. We'd also like to say a MASSIVE THANK YOU to the most generous donation from TSP cakes who donated a colossal RAINBOW DRIP CAKE to raffle off. With everybody kindly purchasing the cakes and raffle tickets as well as adhoc donations we made a grand total of £214!!!! This is definitely one of the most successful bake-a-thons yet with all of the money going to help so many teeny babies at the NICU, Royal Stoke Hospital. We'd like to give a pat on the back to everybody who took part. THANK YOU THANK YOU!

**Babies in Little Town:-** "I wrote to the zoo to send me a pet, they sent me an elephant! He was too big, I sent him back!" Any guesses what our Babies theme has been over the last few months? DEAR ZOO! They've have had so much fun, they created a Dear Zoo wall display using lots of paint and glitter on their colouring pictures— it looks great! They used their story sack (a sack containing teddies and puppets) to retell the tale along with lots of animals in the tuff spot tray, all whilst singing animal songs. It wouldn't be a paragraph about our Babies without mentioning MESSY PLAY. The last few months have involved; shaving foam, paint, water, sand and moon sand. Babies have also enjoyed the garden, as and when the weather has allowed them to, taking out their favourite toys and popping the bubbles from our new bubble machine. Finally we'd like to say a special thank you to Freddy's family, as without them we wouldn't have our new special Freddy teepee which has made a lovely cosy story corner. Thank you so much! xxxxxxxx



**Tiddlers in Cotton Tails:-** Tiddlers have been enjoying their jungle animals theme over the last couple of months. They especially enjoyed their animal fun day where they ate a special animal themed picnic that included; turkey dinosaurs, animal biscuits and Barney bears, YUMMY! Tiddlers have also created a brilliant jungle animals wall display, used flash cards at circle time to identify jungle animals and what noises they make. Identifying body parts has also been another topic during circle time. 'Head, shoulders, knees and toes' has been sung quite often. A new addition to the Cotton Tail's room are wall mounted chalk boards. Lots of mark-making with lots of different coloured chalk has kept the Tiddlers so busy. Jade, Billie and Jess have been teaching the children all about manners and how important it is to use our 'please' and 'thank you's.' We can't forget to mention how much fun our Tiddlers had during their bubble and a hoola hoop activity. The children were amazed by the gigantic bubble that was made. All of the Tiddlers amazing efforts and learning awarded them room of the month in April. Well done.



**Toddlers in Tiggy Winkles:-** Mini-beasts, magnifying glasses, spiders and butterflies; Toddlers thoroughly enjoyed their Mini-beast theme. The children also created a weather wall making the sun, clouds and rainbows. Another theme was 'emotions'. Using flash cards at circle time, Toddlers learned the different kind of emotions. Hannah and Georgia use phrases such as "well done, that has made me very happy" and "we share with our friends, otherwise that makes our friends sad". Reading stories relating to emotions such as, 'The things I love about friends' and 'I love my Mummy' also helped the children to understand different feelings. Lots of other activities also took place, including baking, garden play (a must every day), musical instruments, dressing up, painting, gluing and much more!



**Juniors in Puddle-ducks:** There has been so much happening in Juniors—we've decided to show you what we've been up to in picture format. From the mud kitchen to pet day, dinosaur world to doctors and nurses. Busy-bees



**Seniors in Buttercups:-** The motto in our Seniors group, which is on the wall just as you enter, is 'Dream big little ones'. Learning through play, laughter and fun sums the group up completely. On top of a new 'My Favourite Story Book' display wall (featuring the children's picture and their chosen book) the Seniors have made paper aeroplanes (and lined up to fly them), completed jigsaws working together as a team and enjoyed 'people who help us' role play (such as nurses, police and fire fighters). One of their favourite games to play is Elefun where they catch the colourful butterflies that fly out of the elephants trunk.



**Pre-school in Nutkins:-** With up to 16 children in Pre-school per day, the Nutkins room is a busy place. Kelly and Isobel plan thoroughly to keep our Pre-schoolers entertained, educated and happy. A variety of areas are set up each day so that a small group of children focus on a particular activity, whether it be baking, bunchems, flower making, messy shaving foam play, paper mache with balloons, making necklaces with pasta or inset puzzles. On top of all this, there's also the ICT area, reading corner and plenty of other toy boxes filled with lots of different items for the children to enjoy. If the Pre-schoolers aren't enjoying indoor play, they're out in the garden running around the maze, scooting round the garden or getting rather messy by the mud kitchen.

