

Newsletter February 2022

Hello Parents and Care Givers,

Thank you all for your continued support. The children have settled well into the new term.

We would like to say a big thank you to all those who brought in donations for Witney Food Bank. The donations were gratefully received when Mrs Wright dropped them off before Christmas at the food depot and we received a lovely thank you card from them.

We are delighted to welcome Dani to our team. She has a Level 3 qualification in Play Work and is presently working three mornings a week in Playgroup.

Please remember that staff will always make themselves available to talk to you and are very keen to hear about your child’s interests. Special moments can be shared using our “Wow Moment” sheets which we have available in Playgroup, so please ask if you need some. We look forward to the time when we can welcome you back into the Playgroup building.

This term, we have been using the book “Handa’s Surprise” as a starting point for our topic. The children have embraced the activities and helped to create a display around the project. We have also been using the book “We’re going on a Bear Hunt” as a starting point to celebrate World Storytelling Week. We have continued to post a weekly round up on our Facebook page to share what the children have been experiencing and have also been sending children home with stickers to say what they have been doing during the day.

Our curriculum is based around the 7 areas of learning set out by the EYFS framework. We have a very strong focus on Communication and Language and Literacy. The children are loving our new cosy book areas. We are very happy for them to bring home books to share with you and they are also always welcome to bring books in from home to share with us. Each day, we have a group story time as well as regular opportunities for staff to read to children.

“There can be few things as powerful as regularly reading to a young child”
National Literacy Trust.

We will be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 3rd March.

Questionnaire

Thank you to everyone who returned the questionnaire. We received some great feedback including…

“Very happy with all the lovely staff. All are amazing. Doing a great job”

“We have always felt supported and welcomed by all staff “

“Lovely setting, very friendly staff, amazing Committee”

“We love it when our child has stickers telling us what he has been doing. It helps us to have conversations with him about his day and he gets really happy when we read them”

“When a concern was raised with Mrs Wright, she listened and acted appropriately. All the staff are approachable and easy to talk to”

Steps we have taken following the feedback of things we can improve...

We have had the playhouse treated with preservative and the plastic in the windows will be replaced.

We are having the fence panel replaced.

We have planted more bulbs and are looking forward to the Spring when our lovely plants start flowering.

We appreciate that the outdoor area looks a bit forlorn in the Winter when you drop and pick your children up. Please be reassured that when the children are out playing, it looks inviting and interesting with different activities set up.

We have given staff time to write stickers for your child to keep you informed of their daily activities and each day information is provided on a board in the playground.

We look forward to a time when parents will be able to come and join us to see our classroom. It will also be lovely to welcome parents back in to join us via our parent helper rota.

Committee vacancy

We have a vacancy on our Committee. Please speak to Vicki or a member of the Committee if you feel this is something that you are interested in. We appreciate your support and remind you that we need a Committee of parents in order to run.

**Dates for your diary:-**

Thursday 3rd March – We will be celebrating World Book Day. The children can bring in their favourite book from home and dress up as their favourite characters if they would like to. (No superhero costumes please). We also have Andrew Bayliss, the Manager from Carterton library, coming in to read a story or two.

Friday 18th February – Last day of term before the February half term.

Monday 28th February – First day back after the February half term

Friday 8th April - End of Term

Monday 25th April -Summer Term starts

**Reminders:-**

Every Friday, we post a weekly round up on our Facebook page. We also post other relevant information so please “Follow” us to ensure you get our updates and notifications.

Our website has lots of information, including our latest newsletters, Ofsted’s telephone number, and copies of important policies.

**Finally:-**

Thank you for helping us to continue to keep our children safe and for testing your children when required or keeping them at home if they are unwell. We are continuing to ventilate, wash hands and clean the classroom throughout the day. Please continue to dress your child in plenty of layers on colder days.

Thank you for all your support, it is greatly appreciated.

Staff and Committee Members

February 2022

