



April Newsletter 2015

Dear Parents/ Carers

Welcome to the April newsletter bringing you up to date with what has been happening here at Toy Box during the month of March and our plans for the month ahead.

Baby Unit

In the Pooh bear room this month we have been encouraging communication skills. This has been done through the use of lots of language, singing and reading. We have been encouraging the babies to respond through making different noises, forming words or through hand and face gestures. The babies have enjoyed the singing and dancing activities and have become thoroughly involved through clapping and waving arms to the music and attempting to join in with the singing.

Both rooms have been putting their craft skills to use in the making of Mother's day cards. We have seen some lovely art work which I'm sure everybody enjoyed receiving.

The Rabbits have been exploring different ways of moving as an extension of all the dancing activities that have been taking pace with the younger babies. Lots of jumping, twirling and skipping has taken place especially when their favourite song from 'Frozen' has been played.

The Rabbits have also been exploring their new environment and equipment from the move round. They are loving the new kitchen and table and chairs and are spending lots of time cooking dinner for each other. The new den making and construction area has been a great success also. The children really enjoy hiding in the dens they've been making and playing peek-a-boo with their friends.

Early Years Unit

In the Piglets room we have two lovely new display of art work. One display will be short lived as they have used real flowers to create pictures but the children loved exploring the smell and texture as they selected the flowers that they wanted to use.

The second display is all about squares. The children explored this shape by counting the sides, feeling the edges and points in the corner before creating some lovely pictures through printing and sticking. Both displays are now up for parents to see.

The Tiggers have also been exploring flowers and have painted some beautiful daffodils for all to see. They enjoyed looking at them and used lots of descriptive words to describe them before painting them. The end results were fantastic and too good not to be put on display.

We also created some flower pictures by using our hand prints. The children thought this was great fun as they painted their hands and made lots of mess.

The Tiggers have also been learning all about the solar eclipse. We had many circle time discussions where we talked about what would happen and this threw up loads of interesting questions by the Tiggers as they asked all the whys and what questions you could think of. They then extended this by creating some lovely art work which has been made in to a display for everyone to see.

As with the Baby unit all the children downstairs created some lovely cards for Mother's day which I'm sure everyone was thrilled to receive.

Birthdays

We have seven birthdays this month here at Toy Box and I'm sure you will join with us as we wish them all a very Happy Birthday.

Rabbits	– Jamie 2, Leo 2.
Piglet	– Aaron 3, Ewan 3
Tiggers	– Jaxson 4, Dolton 4, Bailey 4.

Staff member of the month

This month, as it's my last month here at Toy Box I have been awarded the great honour of being nominated staff member of the month by all the staff.

Thank you so much to all my lovely staff and parents. I shall really miss you all.

Please continue to nominate staff for this award as it means a lot to know they are appreciated for all the hard work they do on a daily basis.

Nursery Restructure

As discussed in the previous two newsletters staff have put lots of effort into developing the upstairs play rooms in order to accommodate the new age groups which will be using them. Although this is now nearly finished staff will continue to update and adapt as, when and where necessary.

Staff have also put lots of time into trying to decide on new names for the rooms but so far haven't come up with a name they can all agree on. For now at least all the rooms will keep the old names which are as follows.

Baby Unit,	Pooh Bears	1 room (upstairs) 3 months to 18 months
Early Years Unit , 2 rooms –	Rabbits	room 1 (upstairs), 18 months to 2 ½ years.
	Piglets	room 2 (downstairs), 2 ½ years to 3 ½ years
Pre-school Unit –	Tiggers	1 room (downstairs) 3 ½ years to 5 years

Dates to remember

Last day of term for **GRANT ONLY CHILDREN** – Friday 27th March
Bank Holiday Friday 3rd April – NURSERY CLOSED
Bank Holiday Monday 6th April – NURSERY CLOSED
First day of term for **GRANT ONLY CHILDREN** – Monday 13th April

Reminders

Can I please remind parents to bring in a bag for every child on a daily basis with everything they may need. Even if your child is potty trained, they still may spill a drink or get messy in the creative areas, so spare clothes for every child is a **MUST**.

Those children in nappies **MUST** bring in enough nappies, wipes and creams for the day and need to ensure these are replenished each day your child attends.

Lastly if your child is potty training please send in enough clothing so that they can be changed numerous times. This should include items such as socks and shoes as often these get forgotten.

A big thank you to the parents who already do this. It is greatly appreciated.

And finally.....

This is my last month as Manager at Toy Box and my last newsletter that I will write. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everybody who has made the last 8 years so enjoyable. I have met some fantastic families along the way and have had the privilege to watch your children grow and develop.

A big thank you must also go to the amazing staff team I have worked with who without I would not have had so much fun!

I will pop in to see everyone from time to time so it's not goodbye but see you all later!

As usual we thank all parents/ carers for your continuing support. Please remember that all your comments, concerns and suggestions are welcome, taken seriously and acted upon if necessary.

Joanne and all the Staff at Toy Box Day Nursery