



August Newsletter 2016

Dear Parents/ Carers

Welcome to the August newsletter bringing you up to date with what has been happening here at Toy Box during the month of July as well as our plans for the month ahead.

Baby Unit

The babies have had lots of fun throughout the month with various activities based around our seaside topic. Playing in the sand with buckets and spades, printing with ice cream cones and playing with ice cream were firm favourites amongst all the children. If only we could have this lovely weather throughout the year how wonderful it would be for everyone!

The babies enjoyed this topic so much that it sparked off a themed week, with the children bringing their swimming costumes and having lots of fun outdoors in the sun. They all enjoyed having daily water fights which helped to cool everyone down. Even better they all enjoyed making sure the staff got good and wet which just added to the fun.

The staff upstairs have asked if the children could bring in some photos of themselves and family members and friends (please could you write who they are on the back), as August's focus is "All about me." We will be talking about our families and friends, being healthy and different body parts.

Early Years Unit

Throughout the month of July the children have taken part in our usual end of year celebrations. We started our celebrations by saying good bye to some of those children who are leaving to start school in September, followed by party week to celebrate their graduation from Toy Box Day Nursery. We played lots of games including pass the parcel, musical bumps and party dancing. We also had a party tea time in the style of a picnic, which the children thoroughly enjoyed.

Because of the summer holiday's nursery is a little quieter than usual and with the lovely weather the children have been able to spend lots of time outdoors. Staff took several of the normal activities like painting, drawing, sticking and play dough outside and set them up under the canopy where the children played happily.

Summer Holiday Club

Our Summer Holiday Club is well underway now with lots of exciting themed weeks planned over the next six weeks.

Week 1, which we have already had and because of the lovely warm sunny weather, was Beach Week. Throughout the week the focus was on outdoor activities with lots of sand and

water play. All the children brought their swimming costumes to nursery and had enormous fun with both water play and water fights. Of course all the staff joined in fully which made it all the more fun for the children.

Week 2 was Science Week where the children carried out different experiments each day. They all enjoyed creating a volcano using vinegar and baking powder, a balloon rocket and a lava lamp using food colouring, water and oil.

Week 3 which is this week, has a Pirates and Princesses theme which includes a dressing up day on Thursday 4th August.

Week 4 is planned as Healthy Living Week. Throughout the week staff will talk to the children about the importance of healthy eating and exercise. The children will make fruit salads, smoothies and taking part in various forms of exercise including obstacle courses. On the Wednesday of that week which is 10th August the children are invited to wear their sportswear to nursery.

Week 5 is Teddy Bear Week. Throughout that week all the children are invited to bring their own teddies from home every day. On Tuesday 16th August staff, children and their teddies will be having a teddy bears picnic.

The last week of term will be a week of fun and games, helping the children to calm down and get ready for starting school. The holiday club will end on Friday 26th August with a slumber party day where all the children who would normally attend on that day are invited to come to nursery in their Pyjama's.

Eid-Al-Fitr

On July 6th all the children throughout the nursery celebrated Eid-Al-Fitr They explored various Muslim artefacts such as a Koran, a Muslim prayer mat and different types of head dress. The children enjoyed sitting on the mat and looking at the Koran. Staff put presents in the home corner for the children to give to one another at the end of Eid.

Birthdays

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

Pooh Bears----- Theo 1, Ava 1
Tiggers -----Treijon 3, Kaitlyn 4

Staff Member of the Month

Winner of Staff Member of the Month for July goes to Kirstie Jackson. Kirstie will now receive a £20 gift voucher of her choice.

Kirstie has worked really hard to ensure that all the children have had an opportunity to partake in several exciting activities before they leave for school in September. Kirstie has

also spent lots of time making links with all the schools to inform them of the children's development .

As well as having to complete all her own end of year summative reports Kirstie very kindly took on all those extra tasks. Thank you Kirstie and well done. Your efforts are very much appreciated.

Dates to remember

Start of Term **GRANT ONLY CHILDREN** Thursday 1st September.

Reminders for Sun Hats, Sun Cream

Lastly, as summer has finally arrived, please ensure your child/ children come to nursery every day with a sun hat and sun cream.

If your child has sun cream left over from last year please be aware that most sun creams have a shelf life of twelve months.

Several children bring bikes, scooters and prams to nursery and park them down by the side of the nursery. We have no problem with this. The problem arises when these items are not take home and are left to pile up inside the gate. As this gate is one of the nursery fire escapes it must be kept clear at all times.

Please have a look to see if any of the remaining items belongs to your child and if so please take them home. Items still remaining at the end of the month will be taken to the skip.

Your co-operation in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

And finally.....

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.

Kerry and all the Staff at Toy Box Day Nursery