

February 2017 Newsletter

Toy Box Day Nursery & Pre-School

Dear Parents/ Carers

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

Baby Unit

Throughout the month of January the main focus in The Baby Unit has been on winter. The babies have been looking at books and exploring different winter scenes in photos and pictures. Using blue and white paint, cotton wool, flour and glitter the children created their very own winter scene. Staff froze trays of water and the babies thoroughly enjoyed playing with the ice in the water tray.

As well as exploring winter the babies have also been doing all the usual cutting, painting, sticking, singing and dancing. All in all they have had a pretty busy start to the New Year.

Early Years Unit

Both Tiggers and Piglets had great fun celebrating Chinese New Year. They made Chinese lanterns, Chinese masks, fans, tasted Chinese food and made Chinese flags.

They all thoroughly enjoyed looking at the Chinese artefacts which we loaned from the Multicultural Centre in Doncaster. The artefacts included items of clothing, a traditional dragon dance head, lanterns, cards and books for the children to read. The children really enjoyed exploring all the items. The activity especially engaged the boys as it involved dragons.

The Tiggers also enjoyed a street dancing taster class with Creative Dance Academy. The children were taught how to dance the Charleston and particularly enjoyed the silly faces that went with the dance.

The Tiggers enjoyed the dancing so much that we have decided to have the dance company come to nursery on a weekly basis.

World Book Day Thursday 2nd March

To celebrate and mark the occasion of World Book Day on Thursday 3rd March we are inviting all the children who would normally attend nursery on that day to choose their favourite character either from a book or a nursery rhyme. They are free to choose a book from home or from nursery and then come to nursery on the day, dressed up as their favourite character.

Red Nose Day 24th March 2017

Red Nose day falls during the month of March. As usual we plan to support this worthwhile charity through fundraising and a dressing up day. All the children who would normally attend nursery on the day are invited to come to nursery dressed as their favourite character, or simply wearing a red nose.

All we are asking for is a £1 donation from every child, which we will then forward on to this very worthwhile charity.

Birthdays

We have four 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.

Piglet – Maisie 3 Georgia 2, Mia 2
Tiggers – Miley 4, Charlotte 4,

Dates to Remember

February Half Term	Grant Only	Friday 17 th February
Term starts back	Grant Only	Monday 27 th February

Staff Member of the Month

Staff member for the month of January is Jenny Cox. Jenny has been nominated by a parent/carer who states 'Jenny is really caring with my little boy, she is considerate and gentle towards his feelings'.

Jenny will now receive a £20 voucher of her choice.

Congratulations and well done Jenny. Keep up the good work!

Parents/ carers collecting late

I would like to draw parents/ carers' attention to the fact that nursery sessions finish at 1pm in the afternoon and 6pm in the evening. We have had several incidences recently where parents/ carers have not arrived to collect their child until a quarter past and half past six. This, I'm sure you will agree is totally unacceptable. Some of

our staff have a bus to catch and children of their own to pick up. If parents/ carers arrive late at nursery to pick up their child it causes inconvenience and can incur extra expense for the staff members in question.

If you want a full feedback on your child's day, please ensure that you arrive at nursery no later than 5.50.

Late collections are charged at £10 per ten minutes or part there of, which will automatically be added to your child's invoice.

Your full co-operation in this matter will be greatly appreciated by all the staff.

Bringing toys from home

We seem to have lots of children bringing toys to nursery recently. Can we please ask that parents/carers to refrain from allowing their child/ children bring toys from home to nursery. Toys can easily get lost or indeed broken, leading to some very upset children. We have loads of toys here at nursery so there really is no need for children to bring toys from home.

Please support the staff by adhering to this request. From here on any child arriving at nursery with a toy will be asked by staff to hand it back to whoever has brought them to nursery.

Staff have also requested that all children have shoes at nursery as well as wellies. Some children only have wellies which they wear indoors all day. Throughout the day at nursery the children take part in activities which require lots of movement, for example music bugs, street dancing and indoors exercise time.

Staff have noticed that children wearing wellies struggle a little and cannot move freely during these activities.

If you still want to send your child/ children to nursery in wellies that's fine, but please let us also have a pair of indoor shoes as well. We have lots of lovely activities for the children on a daily basis and we want each child to be able to enjoy these activities to the full.

.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