



# Verwood Day Nursery

## January Newsletter 2017



Welcome to our first newsletter of 2017 we hope you had a lovely Christmas and a very Happy New Year to you all.

# 雞

Rooster

## Celebrating the Chinese New Year of the Rooster

The whole nursery have recently come together to join in with the celebrations for Chinese New Year, which this year is the year of the Rooster.

Celebrating diversity is embedded within the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum and we are always looking for fun and exciting ways of introducing festivals, celebrations and cultures to the children.

The children have explored Chinese writing, used chopsticks for fine motor activities and eating, we have made lots of dragons and roosters and danced to Chinese music. They have also explored and played with some traditional Chinese food and vegetables.



# Baby and toddler news

This month I'd like to welcome Finley, Harriet, Toby, Jack, Amelia and Joseph to the nursery. I hope that all the children and their families have settled in well to nursery life!

This month the children have continued to explore messy play and painting in various forms. From creating the cloudy sky for their new display or exploring the feel of paint on their bodies, they have all got well and truly 'stuck in'!



Staff have introduced different tools to encourage the children to notice the marks they can make in paint and encourage them to become curious about the process.





## Developing a love of books ...

Even from a very early age children develop a love of books and stories. Reading to infants contributes to the development of their growing brains and gives them a good start towards a lifelong love of reading and books.

When you read to babies, it can also help speech development as they are taking in information and beginning to learn about speech patterns.

As babies see a picture of a blue ball in the book and you name the ball, they begin to make the connection between what you say and the picture of the blue ball. The more you read that book, the stronger the connection. The repetitive

storyline makes the book fun, engaging, and easier to remember. Reading to babies is not only a way to inspire a love of books from a very young age, but also an important way to grow a baby's vocabulary - first their understanding vocabulary and later their speaking vocabulary.

We share lots and lots of stories across the whole nursery, even with the youngest babies and we encourage you to take time to share books and stories at home too.

A child who grows up with a love of stories and books will have the great foundations for learning how to read when they start school.

## Celebrating milestones...

The staff here at Verwood Day Nursery take great pleasure in sharing in the excitement and joy of your child's milestones whether we see it here or you share it on tapestry. We support the children in taking their first steps and saying their first words and then provide the opportunities they need to develop and move on to the next milestone.

That's why our partnership with parents is so important so don't forget to tell us when something new has happened so we can support your child in the correct way in their continuing development.



**If you have 5 minutes we'd be really grateful.**

## Two, three and four year old news

This month I'd like to welcome Ibrahim, Rose, Evie and William to the nursery this month and I hope that together with their families they have settled into nursery life.



### Winter weather

The staff have been following the children's interest in the icy cold weather this month and have embarked on a winter theme with them.



We have spent many frosty cold mornings out in the Orchard looking for ice that has formed on or even in things and this has sparked lots of discussion about ice and freezing and melting.

The staff have also observed a keen interest in animals recently so the children have looked at animals that live in cold places too, using books as a reference to learn more about them.

Inside the staff have provided lots of wintery activities such as snowy salt pictures, playing with pretend snow, making wintery sensory bags and carrying out experiments learning what freezes and what doesn't.



Staff will continue to support the children's interest in the weather but also develop their interest in animals and books and we look forward to a visit from Verwood library on the 6<sup>th</sup> February to share a story and singing time with the children.

## Recognising their names ...

We provide daily opportunities for children to recognise their names. They have labelled coat pegs, bottles and writing cards. Some of them can even find their friends names by remembering the initial letter and recalling the formation of the letters that follow.

Once they start to recognise a few words like their name (initially just as a picture) they can then slowly start to recognise individual letters and phonics within that word and take their first steps in becoming an emergent reader. They pick out letters in all kinds of places such as shop signs and street signs and even old Christmas cards ...



## Some reminders



### Coats and shoes

We ask that **ALL** children come to nursery with a sensible, **warm and waterproof** outdoor coat and shoes. There have been occasions where we have had to provide children with alternative outdoor wear or boots to allow them to access the outdoor areas during the day. We will go outside each day, in the cold and wet, sun and snow and we don't want anyone to miss out.

### Health visitor clinic



Sharon Wallis from the Verwood Health visiting team will be at the nursery on Thursday the 9<sup>th</sup> February from 4.15pm onwards. The clinics are an opportunity to meet with Sharon to have your child weighed or measured or discuss any concerns or seek some advice.

Anyone is welcome to see Sharon, she doesn't have to be your child's Health visitor and if you'd like to see her, simply pop along anytime from 4.15pm.

### Can you help?

- We are in need of spare trousers for the children. We usually have lots of spare clothes in case of emergencies but many items are never returned. Do you have any trousers or leggings you'd like to donate?
- Can we ask you to save your empty tins, packets and boxes for our home corners please? The children love to play with items they recognise from home and we would like to keep our home corners stocked up for them.

Thank you all in advance!

## Coming up in February

### **Health visitor clinic – Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February**

(see previous details for more information)

### **World book week – Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March**

During world book week the children will have the opportunity to participate in the big book swap and then on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March the children and staff will be participating in World Book Day by dressing up as their favourite book characters.

## Future events for 2017

### **Annual Easter egg Hunt – Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> April**

This fantastic event will be taking place once again for all of the children and families.

### **Parents evenings – May (dates to be confirmed)**

We will be offering 10 minute appointments with your Childs key person to chat about their progress and next steps.

### **Sports Day – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July**

The nursery will host its 4<sup>th</sup> sports day for all our 3 and 4 year olds on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July.

### **Leavers party – Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> August**

Our annual farewell party for all our 'big school' boys and girls

### **Photographer – Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> August \* new date \***

Our annual visit from Concept photography

### **Parents evenings – October (dates to be confirmed)**

We will be offering 10 minute appointments with your child's key person to chat about their progress and next steps

### **Pumpkin week – date to be confirmed**

We will once again be hosting a pumpkin week with a pumpkin carving competition for children, parents and staff.

### **Children in Need – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November**

We will once again be showing our support for this charity by having a themed day

### **Christmas Fair – Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December**

Our annual Christmas fair for all attending children and their families