



Verwood Day Nursery May newsletter



May has brought us sunny days and lots of fun
in the orchard

Baby and toddler news

The babyroom staff have been working hard settling lots of our older toddlers downstairs as they prepare to make the move onto to the next stage in their nursery life. From visiting with their key person to having a stay and play session with mummy and daddy, all these little steps mean that the children settle and adjust very quickly indeed.

Making marks

The children are still keen to explore the marks they can make so staff have offered a variety of media this month. They enjoyed using chalks which enabled them to make marks easily on black paper. They showed pure amazement and wonder as they moved the chalk across the page and left a mark as they moved their hands.



The children have also helped to make some lovely display boards this month all about under the sea and the blossom on our apple trees.



We have lots of stories and resources and of course our fish that the children love, so staff have taken this interest to create the new display.



Whilst playing outside the children have also investigated the blossom that has been falling from the apple trees like snow.

Using their hands to create blossom they created this wonderful display for the room.

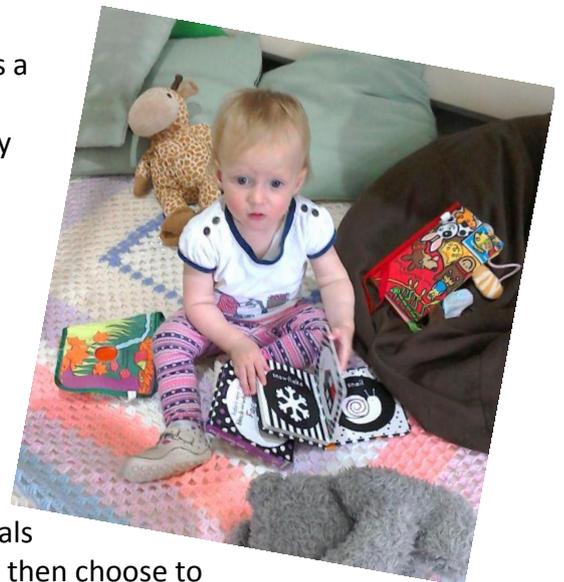


Books and stories

From a very young age the children sit and share stories as a group. This social time encourages them to sit nicely with their friends and begin to develop the skills needed as they move through the nursery.



It also nurtures a love of books and an interest in printed materials that the children then choose to investigate independently.



Don't forget to like us on Facebook to keep up to date with everything we are doing.

The children have also made the most of the lovely weather and spent time outside developing those gross motor skills and investigating things such as rolling, scooting and swinging.



Two, three and four year old news

This month I'd like to welcome Charlie and his family to Verwood and to the nursery. I hope that he is enjoying his time with us and I know he has settled in well and made lots of new friends already.



Our finished scarecrow

Introducing you to our new finished scarecrow who is busy in the vegetable garden protecting the potatoes, strawberries, raspberries, carrots, courgettes and sweetcorn from the birds and visiting rabbits!

Sainsbury's



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We are collecting Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers again this year.

Please pass on any vouchers to the staff downstairs to put in our collection box.

Space

The children have been role playing building space ships and space helmets and taking missions to mars and the moon, so the staff have embarked on a space theme with them.

We have a new story book called *Goodnight Spaceman* that was produced in collaboration with astronaut Tim Peake which the children love hearing and looking at.



We invested in a 'stomp rocket' which the children have had the best fun seeing who can launch it the highest and make it travel the furthest.



We've built rockets in the garden and launched to the moon where we found moon sand.



We have created lunar landscapes with our messy play for the children to explore and embarked on some creative activities to make pictures and planets for our new display.



Hand eye co-ordination

Developing hand eye co-ordination is a vital starting point on which to build the foundations of writing.



We do this every day in the activities we offer and one favourite involves food! The temptation to eat the cheerio's as they are carefully threaded onto the delicate spaghetti can sometimes be too much, but this activity is a firm favourite at the moment as the children compete to build the tallest tower.

Encouraging mark making with boys

At parents evening this month, many parents expressed concern that their boys were showing no interest in making marks and what could they do to encourage it?

Well, it's not unusual for boys to be reluctant in this area of their development because there are simply much better things to do!

So how do we encourage and develop it?

Well we spend time 'tuning in' to the children and learning what interests them. Where do they prefer to spend their time and what do they choose to play with? Knowing what makes them 'tick' allows us to plan and provide experiences that will interest and engage them.



Knowing that they like the outdoors and maybe the mud kitchen in particular we may plan to use sticks to make marks in the mud. If they like cars and trains best, we will use these to make marks with paint on a large scale. Boys will often choose a physical activity and so adapting activities like art, craft and mark making to include the physical aspect, you will gain the boys interest.

Make paper readily available so 'lists' can be written and role model mark making at home whenever you can.



Thank you to everyone who has taken the time to post your own observations onto Tapestry. We are all so grateful that you are able to share these occasions with us and be part of your child's learning journey.

Referral reward

Don't forget that our referral reward is to say thank to those parents who recommend friends and colleagues to Verwood Day Nursery. A big thank you to the Rose family who this month have benefited from a £100 referral reward.



To benefit from this reward yourself, you must ask the person you recommend to mention your name at time of enquiry or booking and the new child must be on a full time (51 week contract).

Then after the new child has been in attendance at Verwood Day Nursery for 3 full months, the £100 reward will be credited to your account during the 4th month. Simple!

The nursery is filling up fast and current spaces won't be available for long. If you are thinking of increasing or you know of someone who is thinking of joining us, please contact us ASAP to avoid any disappointment.

Staff news

Well it looks like I'll need two hats as we have to give a huge congratulations to Jade and her partner Andy who got engaged on the 23rd May to her partner of 5 years Andy. Well done you two!

Some of you may have noticed that Kaitie is expecting a baby. Kaitie and her husband Ethan are excited to welcome their new baby at the beginning of August. Kaitie hopes to stay with us until mid-July when she will then begin her maternity leave. We wish her the best over the coming months and we will keep you all updated.

Coming up next month:

- Transition meetings with parents and schools for our 2016 school leavers
- Afternoon tea's where you are invited to join us to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday. Look out for your personal invitations.

That's it for now!

Rachel, Carole and the team