



Verwood Day Nursery

March 2018

Newsletter



Let it snow, let it snow ...

Not quite the start to March we had predicted!



Annual Easter egg hunt

Thank you to everyone that came to this year's annual egg hunt. Despite the wet weather we still managed to have a lovely time.



Find us on:
facebook®

See our Facebook page for
more photos of the event.

News from the Nest

This month I'd like to welcome Emily, Oliver, Darcy and Bella to The Nest. All the children have settled in so well already and thoroughly enjoying their time with us.

Exploring textures

Over the last few weeks staff have been introducing opportunities for the children to explore a variety of textures. They have explored a variety of materials, craft mediums and food such as crunchy cereal.

The children are encouraged to use all of their senses to explore and investigate and more opportunities will be provided over the next few weeks.





Its good to talk!

The children absolutely love watching from our large windows upstairs. We have steps so they can see and often they take themselves over to look out and see what's happening and who's about.

We see horse riders and dog walkers on a daily basis and occasionally exciting things like tractors, Lorries and police cars.

All these things provide opportunities for conversation. Staff will provide a narrative of all the things that can be seen – birds, dogs, horses, people, bicycles, cars, runners, walkers

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) states that as adults we need to tune in to what young children are trying to convey. So when they point at something and attempt to make a sound we can acknowledge what they've seen and say for example, 'that's a horse'.

Modelling language to children is how they build their vocabulary. Sharing stories is essential at all ages and we would encourage all parents to take time to look at books with their child.

Research has shown that the use of electronic equipment such as tablets, has caused a rise in speech and language development delay. Every half an hour a toddler spends on a tablet is believed to increase their risk of language delay by 49%



News from Apple and Plum rooms

Dippy about Dinosaurs

Many of our children have visited Dippy the Dinosaur in Dorchester recently. This sparked a dinosaur theme for Apple room. Staff used reference books to help the children learn more about the different dinosaurs and children have drawn and discussed their favourites.



We made our own dinosaur fossils making imprints of skeletons in dough and filling with plaster of Paris.

The staff also created a dinosaur world complete with volcano



Time for tea

Across the nursery we are continuing to introduce the children to real life resources. One popular addition has been the china tea set and tea and coffee pots.

To extend the children's interest in the articles, we allowed them to experiment with tea leaves and ground coffee.



The smell was amazing!

The children had lots of discussion about what they were doing, what happened when they added water etc.



They used very careful skills such as pouring to transfer their cups of tea and coffee into different containers and they shared stories about who drinks what in their families!

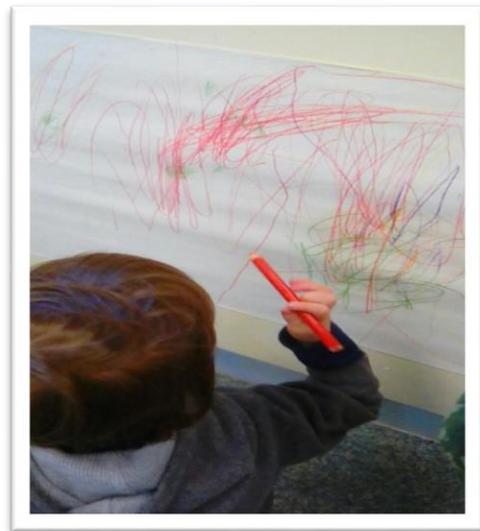
Mr Muscle!

In Plum room staff have been focusing on the fine and gross motor skills needed for mark making.

Craig, Rosie and Rachel have all recently attended training about the connection between movement and learning and one area of focus was how important our gross motor development is in being able to hold a pencil.

How well a person can hold a pencil depends on their shoulder and arm strength and stability, and from this gross motor development, fine motor skills can progress. In order to write or draw, a child's muscle groups must learn to work together.

To encourage children to use their shoulder and arm muscles staff have been presenting opportunities to paint or draw on a vertical surface rather than a flat one. This encourages a child to use their large muscles to move their arm and make marks.



Each morning the children help staff prepare our snack, using 'safe knives'. They carefully hold the fruit with one hand and use the other to control the knife and cut the fruit.

Without realising it the children are developing the skills and coordination of muscles required to hold a pencil and steady their piece of paper.



The 'Kiddi Kutter child's safety knife' can be found at Lakeland plastics for £10.99. If you have a child who likes to help you in the kitchen we would thoroughly recommend purchasing one of these knives.

Lost property

Does your child have a coat that looks like this?



Can you please check that the one you have is the right one?

We have a missing coat, identical to this one but it is clearly named.

Please let us know if you have picked it up by mistake so we can reunite it with its rightful owner.

Thank you.



Fairwell

We have said a sad fairwell to Mel from our baby and toddler room team.

Mel has been with us for a number of years having left and later returned in September 2016 for her most recent time with us.

We are all very sad to see Mel go but we wish her all the best in her new job and hope she visits us all soon.



Coming up in April

- The grand opening of The Willow House our new outdoor natural learning classroom. (Very exciting!)
- Spring term summaries will be accessible to read on Tapestry at the end of the month for you to see how your child is making progress. These will be available for all children apart from those leaving us to go to school this year, their summaries will follow later.
- Invitations for parent's evenings will also come out in April for appointments in May.

Future events for 2018

Dates for your diaries

Parents evenings – May (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.

Royal wedding celebrations – Friday 18th May

Parents will be invited to join their children for a celebration 'street party' tea

National Children's Gardening Week – 26th May to the 3rd June

Keep an eye out for opportunities for parents and relatives to come in and get their hands dirty in our vegetable garden.

Sports Day – Friday 20th July

The nursery will host its 5th sports day for all our 3 and 4 year olds on Friday 20th July.

Leavers party – Saturday 11th August

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

Photographer – September (date to be confirmed)

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 competition – Wednesday 31st October

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

Children in Need – Friday 16th November

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

Christmas Fair – Saturday 8th December

Our annual Christmas fair for all attending children and their families

From Rachel and all the team at Verwood Day Nursery