



Contents

A Note from Angela	1
Staff	2
Focus of half term	2
Book of half term	2
Songs and rhymes	2
Ideas of activities you can do at home	3
What we have been doing	3
What resources will we be exploring?	4
Other information	4
Dates for your diary	5

A Note from Angela

Welcome back to all the children who were off during the Easter break. Last half term we welcomed several new children and their families into Nurture and we continue to do so this half term.

STAFF:

Over the last few weeks we have welcomed Sian, Hannah, Karl and Leonni to the team. We are also delighted that Hannah has returned to our team and remains within the 1-2 room. We are sad to say that Meesha has decided not to return after her Maternity Leave, but wish her lots of luck for the future.

- Sian is based within the 1- 2 room and was working at a local nursery for several years before joining us.
- Hannah has joined our 2-3 room and is about to embark on her NVQ Level 2 apprentice training.
- Karl has recently moved to the area. He is Level 3 and has joined Amy and Amy in preschool.
- Leonni has also joined our 2-3 room and brings with her a wealth of experience.

We are looking forward to getting to know these practitioners more over the coming months.

We bid a fond farewell to Steph who is beginning her maternity leave. We wish her lots of luck and look forward to meeting baby in the near future.

We would also like to pass on our congratulations to Kayleigh who is also pregnant. Kayleigh's baby is due in September and we are hoping she will remain with us until the end of the summer term.

Congratulations to Alison who has successfully completed her NVQ Level 3 and good luck to Amy A who is nearing the end of her Childhood Studies Degree.

TRAINING:

Our staff meetings have focused on in house training, this consisted of:

- Characteristics of Effective Learning and how we support children in developing the tools to learn.
- Core Values – the whole staff took a Saturday out to discuss the core values and behaviours within the nursery and how this manifests itself in day to day practice. The core values

we have agreed upon are:

- Teamwork
- Equality
- Passion
- Nurturing
- Trust
- Respect
- Communication

Our workplace values drive the attitudes and behaviours which we want to see within our team. We aim to create a positive and co-operative environment where everyone is valued and included and are working collaboratively with each other and for each other. We are striving to create a dedicated, enthusiastic and open minded team who take ownership of their actions and can help solve their own and each other's problems. We will be revisiting this over the coming weeks.

Angela, Rachel and Kayla attended an Early Years Conference which provides useful updates with regards to national changes and legislation and also provides a fantastic opportunity to network and share good practice with other settings. This is a challenging time for the Early Years sector on the political front and we will be sharing our thoughts and opinions with the cabinet in its Cutting Red Tape review and the 30 hours Consultation which are taking place during May and June.

Rachel attending training on the Early Years Pupil Premium and how this can be used effectively to support children and their families

Alison and Lucy attended training on Play and Creativity with children who are under 2. This provided a fantastic insight into the range of activities we can engage our youngest children in.

Rachel and Amy A attended Phonics training which provided a better insight into how and why the sounds are taught in the order they are as well as exciting and interesting activities and resources which are readily available

Rachel attended Health and Safety to ensure we are up to date with current legislation.

UPCOMING TRAINING

Whole staff meetings will focus on British Values and the Prevent Duty, Safeguarding, Core

Values and focusing on Maths through everyday activities.

Preparing for OFSTED – Rachel

Tremendous 2 year olds – Emma

Safeguarding – Kayla

Aiming High in the EYFS – Rachel and Kayla

Early Movers – Amy H

First Aid for practitioners whose training has expired.

TRANSITION

It is that time of year when parents find out which school their child has been allocated.

We would appreciate it if you could inform Amy which school your child is going to so we can contact their school to begin the transition process and we are gearing up to make sure all our children are school ready. This includes children being fully toilet trained and also being confident in dressing and undressing themselves.

NURSERY SPACES

As a result of a sudden influx of babies, we have very limited space available at present and in the near future.

If you, or someone you know, is looking for a childcare place please book your child in ASAP to avoid disappointment.

HEALTHY BODY HAPPY ME WEEK

Week Beginning 23rd May 2016 we are dedicating the whole week to 'Keeping fit and Healthy.'

Each day will be celebrating a different area of health. This includes:

- Healthy eating
- Caring for our bodies
- Keeping moving
- The great outdoors
- Things to do as a family at home

More details to follow but we hope as many of you will support this event.

I hope you enjoy reading what the children have been doing and find the information for this term informative



Staff



Amy
Room Leader



Karl
Nursery Practitioner



Amy H
Nursery Nurse

We are excited to welcome Karl to our team in the Pre-school room. Karl will be working full time and has a level 3 qualification in childcare. We are also happy to announce that Amy H is working with us as a qualified member of staff who also works full time. As result of this we have sadly had to say goodbye to Heather who has moved upstairs into the 2-3 room. We would also like to take this time to say a farewell to Stephy from the 2-3 room as she goes on maternity leave from the 21st April. We wish her all the luck with her baby boy!

Focus of half term

Our focus in the Pre-school room during this half term is 'Under the Sea'. We will be spending time looking at the different sea creatures, what animals live deep below the sea and the different colours, shapes and sizes of the animals and objects we would find there. For the 'Under the Sea' theme, we will be engaging the children in lots of focus group activities. These would include activities such as group conversations, arts and crafts, changing the role play area and mathematical activities.



Book of Half-term

This half term we will be focusing on three books:

- ★ Rainbow Fish
- ★ Commotion in the Ocean
- ★ Sharing a Shell

These books teach the children that we should always be kind and the importance of sharing. The children enjoy these books and we will start to read them more during story time.

Songs and rhymes

- ★ Once I caught a fish alive
- ★ A sailor went to sea, sea, sea
- ★ Under the sea from The Little Mermaid



Ideas of activities you can do at home

Ideas of activities you can do at home

- ★ Swimming
- ★ Exploring shaving foam and blue food colouring using their hands, describing the textures.
- ★ Feeding the ducks
- ★ Visiting the aquarium

- ★ Play dough – blue glittery play dough.

RECIPE

- 2 cups plain flour
- 2 table spoons vegetable oil
- ½ cup salt
- 2 tablespoons cream of tartar
- Up to 1 – ½ cups boiled water
- Food colouring

If you would like to order some of nurseries home made play dough for £1, please speak to Rachel.

What we have been doing



Our last theme was “Growing”. For this, we learnt about plants and animals. We started to talk to the children about the different continents and what animals come from which. We will be carrying this over into the new term. We also celebrated Easter! All of the children made Easter cards and we learned about the traditions behind it. During the term, we had World Book Day where we dressed up as our favourite book characters and read our favourite stories. Thank you to all who participated.





What resources will we be exploring?

Due to the 'Under the Sea' theme, we have bought the children new sea creature toys for them to play with in the water, sand and throughout the room. We have updated our sensory area and have added lots more things, such as custard, pasta, and fruit and shaving foam. This is so the children can create and make marks in the different textures all the time as everything is accessible to them.

This term we will be exploring the maths resources and will be getting the children involved in more group and one to one maths activities to develop their knowledge on number recognition, counting and shape, space and measure. We will also be incorporating mathematics in to the daily routine.

The children have enjoyed junk modelling in the last few weeks, so if you have any boxes or any recycling materials, please bring them in and we can add them to our collection.



Other Information



We would like to kindly remind all parents/carers to bring their child in with spare clothes. This includes underwear, trousers and socks. Accidents do happen and although we do have spares in the building, sometimes there isn't the right size for your child!

Summer is coming up and we're hoping the weather will get warmer. It is important that all children are brought with appropriate clothing for the weather and if possible to bring in named sun cream, sun hats and water bottles. We recommend that you name all clothing so that lost belongings are easier to locate.

Dates for Your Diary

Photos

Please check your emails for more information

Tuesday 26th April

Healthy Body Active Me week

wk beg 23rd May

Mrs Preece from All Saints coming to visit the pre-school children

(we will keep you posted when other teachers are due in)

Tuesday 24th May

Half term

Fri 17th May - Mon 6th June

Sports day for Over twos

More details to follow shortly

Monday 20th June

Break up for Summer

Friday 29th July



I am sure you will all want to share in us sending our huge congratulations to Rachel Bowden who is getting married on Saturday and in wishing her and Damien an amazing day!!!

When she returns next week she will be

Mrs Tonge