



Dear Parents and carers

18 October 2021

We had a lovely time in nursery last week. We were studying spiders and learnt lots about these arachnids. We found some real spiders which we watched, drew them and handled!! The staff made some great learning provocations whereby children had to find plastic spiders, melt the ice to free the spiders and pick them out of their webs with tweezers. Not only were all the activities fun and engaging they all had a learning intention whether it be mark making, practising fine motor skills or developing children's critical thinking. Well done to the team for putting these things out for the children. Next week is pumpkins, so everything pumpkin.



Spiders

Half term

Next week is half term in nursery, so term time funded children are not due in unless prebooked already. We do have some spaces available so if you would like your child to come in for extra sessions then please ring nursery and speak to Helen or Jackie to confirm. Even though it's quiet the staff are still planning lots of activities and fun for the week. We have planned a Halloween party for Friday 29th and children are welcome to come into nursery dressed up in their spooky costumes.



We are now starting to think about Christmas in nursery and planning our registers and staff holidays. To confirm term time children, break up on Friday 17 December, the nursery is open as normal up until Christmas Eve, on that Friday we close at 4pm. We then open back up as usual on Tuesday 4th January 2022 and term time children return on Wednesday 5th January. If you would like to book your child on holiday for any of your booked sessions, then please let us know so we can update the registers and your invoice.

Heuristic treasure basket



After completing some training Helen and Jackie were able to access some funding to purchase two beautiful treasure baskets for the baby and toddler room. Both baskets contain a multitude of random goodies for the children to discover and explore. They have gone down exceptionally well and offer the children lots of open-ended opportunities to learn. These baskets are easy to put together if you wanted to make one for your little one at home. Here is a link on how to make a basket for your little one: <https://www.familycorner.co.uk/how-make-treasure-basket-and-introduce-heuristic-play>

Clothes donations

Thank you to everyone that contributed to our clothes collection over the last couple of months. We had the bank emptied last week and they sent us a payment for just under £45. Although not a huge amount it all helps and adds to the funds that we use for buying resources or putting on activities for the children. Please feel free to use the clothes bank to offload any unwanted garments or textiles. We do have bags for this available in the foyer, but items can be put in any bag and thrown in.



Nursery Photo's

We have received lots of lovely feedback regarding the nursery photos. They were all gorgeous and we were so proud of the children having their pictures taken. Lots of parents have already paid for the photo's which is great. If we could ask that all outstanding money is returned by Friday this week that would help us immensely, please. If you are not wanting the photo's then simply return them to nursery and no charge will be made. If you have any re-orders then please let us know and we can raise these with Mr Finlay- when he's back off his holidays.

In the past we have done family photo shoots with Mr Finlay. These are held on a Saturday and families come into nursery and Mr Finlay takes photos and makes up large portraits. These are exceptional value and always turn out great. If anyone would be interested in this, then please let me know in the office. If we have enough families, we will be able to put this on before Christmas, so portraits are back in time for the festive period.

Forest School



We had such a blast at our first forest school sessions of the year on Thursday. The children were thrilled to be out and about and thrived on the freedom they had to explore the woods. The hot chocolate and biscuits went down a treat of course as well as the muddy puddles. This is a great opportunity for children to get close to nature and feel connected with the outdoor environment- we are so excited to watch the children learn and grow during these sessions.

We will hold another session for everyone this Thursday, then there won't be a session during half term as I'm away that week. After half term I think we will split the children into two groups and run forest school on a two week rota.

This will enable children to visit the woods every other week and have a longer duration exploring. We felt that 45 minutes each is not enough to get involved and children didn't want to leave once we were there. Letters will be sent to parents to confirm which group children are in so you know when to bring in clothes and wellies.

We are also thinking about offering these sessions out to children not in on the Thursday. This would mean parents could book their children into nursery between 9.30-11.30 for £10, so they could come in for Forest school. If this is something you are interested in then please let us know in the office so we can look at numbers.

Harvest Festival

We had a lovely harvest festival last week when Reverent Mike and Lay Minister Alan Nash. They came and spoke to the children about different food, what we liked and what we were thankful for. The children were exceptionally well behaved and listened careful and joined in beautifully.

Just to clarify the children are sat in the soon to be new outdoor sand pit- it was very convenient and comfy although it does look like a pen on the photos hahaha



Diary Dates and information

- Link to this week's menu:
http://telfordnurseries.org/files/Autumn_Term_2021_Week_7_Menu.pdf
- October half term: Monday 25 October to Friday 29 October
- Christmas opening: Closed Monday 27 December – Monday 3 January. Term time children break up Friday 17 December and return Wednesday 5 January.

Yours sincerely



Helen Childs
Nursery Manager