

Outdoor Learning

We have been working on improving the play opportunities outside. We have recently purchased a fantastic obstacle course. It is made up of free parts that the children can design and organise to make up their own course.

We also have a wavy slide on order that should hopefully be here by the end of the week.

We will be developing a small garden area growing different vegetables and fruit. We are looking to get some chickens (once the ban on letting them outside is over).

Our Footy Tots sessions will be able to move outdoors with the better weather on the way (we hope).

Events / Diary Dates

St Patrick's Day 17th March—we will be having a go at some Irish Dancing and eating Irish Stew for lunch!

Spring Equinox 20th March—we will be doing lots of spring artwork and looking for signs of spring outside

Mother's Day 26th March

Easter Holidays—nursery will be closed Good Friday 14th April and Easter Monday 17th April.

St George's Day 23rd April— we will have a week long theme looking at British Values



Lets hope it's bye bye winter! (just last week)



We are One Year Old in April

We will be having our first birthday party on Friday 28th April more details to follow—all children are invited to attend.

Recommend a friend and receive a £25 Marks and Spencer Voucher*

*All parents that recommend a friend who registers and takes up a place at nursery will receive a £25 voucher to spend at Marks and Spencer. Please remember to tell us if you recommend someone.



KINDERVIEW NEWSLETTER

Number 3

Spring 2017

Welcome to our spring newsletter.

We have lots of news to tell you about in this newsletter. As always if you have any questions about any of the information contained in this newsletter please ask any member of staff.

Welcome to our new starters—we now have over 50 children registered!

Since our last newsletter we have welcomed many new children to our nursery. Baby room is filling up fast and the staff are working really hard to ensure all new children and their parents are supported as they start nursery. We aim not to rush the settling in period so that children feel secure when the big day comes without mum or dad.

30 Free Hours September 2017

From this September we will be offering the 30 free hours scheme for all 3 and 4 year old's that are eligible. There is criteria parents have to meet. The first being they work more than 16 hours per week and don't earn each more than £100,000. If your child will be 3 or 4 by September you will receive a letter from the Local Authority sometime in May to explain how you can find out if you are eligible. Nursery can also help you with this—please see Louise or Suzanne for more information.

We will be offering the 30 hours as either 1/2 day sessions of 5 hours or full day sessions of 10 hours. If you would like to provisionally book your child's place/sessions for September please fill out an intended sessions form which you can get from the office.

St Margaret's Catholic Primary

Year 6 Readers

Children from school will continue to come into nursery every Thursday afternoon to do some reading with our pre-school children. We feel this benefits all the children involved.

Transitions

To support our pre-school children getting ready for school we will be borrowing school uniform from school and practicing getting dressed (after PE)! We will also take the children into school for assemblies to help 'big school' feel a little less BIG!





NEWS FROM OUR PLAY ROOMS

Baby Room

We have renamed baby room as **Ducklings**.

As the numbers in this room continue to grow weekly we have had to review our staffing. We are pleased to announce that from April, Amy (currently in pre-school) will be joining Becca and Kirsty as a permanent full time member of the team.

Becca and Kirsty have recently updated their knowledge of caring for the specific needs of babies. They have both undertaken NDNA training on this subject. Amy will complete the same training in the very near future. Kirsty has also completed Outstanding Practitioner Training.

New toys and equipment

We have purchased a new play-house for our youngest children.

We have also bought a large artificial grass carpet for outdoors to give children a different texture / sensory experience on which to play on—especially when its just too wet to play on the real grass.

For indoors we have bought some 'treasure baskets' for heuristic play.

We hope these toys and equipment will support learning through play.

As always if you have a good idea for something we can get / or make to improve our baby room please let us know.



Very busy babies

Introducing Hedgehogs

Our two year old room will now be called **Hedgehogs**. We asked the children which animal they liked the best from a selection of woodland creatures and they decided on a hedgehog.

Sean, Danielle and Chelsea will continue to be the main staff in this room supported by **Trisha** and students **Beth and Jake**.

Hedgehogs have had some new toys and equipment this term. A really useful craft display shelf. Which enables the children to 'self serve' themselves with paper, pens, glue etc. The home corner has also been supplemented by way of a wooden toy mixer, pretend play cake and lots of play tins with lids to put on and take off. Following on from what a few parents said from the questionnaire about the reading area we have ordered a reading basket where children can sit on their own to seek a bit of quiet.



Pre-School Foxes

The children in pre-school chose a **fox** as their room mascot.

We are really pleased to announce that **Samantha Whitehead** will be joining us in our pre-school from Easter. Sam has much experience working in Ofsted Outstanding nurseries both Local Authority and privately run. We feel Sam will make a very positive addition to the team and to what already is a really lovely environment for children to learn and develop their skills. Sam is very passionate about child led learning and has worked alongside acclaimed early years author/practitioner Alistair Bryce Clegg in updating her practice.

Hannah has been updating her own knowledge and practice. She has completed some phonics training and is hoping to enroll on the Early Years Teacher Training course in September.

Children in pre-school will be focusing on their 'school readiness'. There will be an increasing emphasis on encouraging the children to: listen and sustain their concentration for greater periods of time, become more independent with tasks such as putting coats and shoes on, phase 1 phonics, writing their name, early maths—using and recognising numbers up to 20 and much more. If you would like to find out more about how to support your child with learning at home please speak to Sam or Hannah.

Foxes enjoying story time

