



## Nursery Newsletter

**Week beginning 5<sup>th</sup> December 2023:**

### **News**

With the end of term in sight the children have worked incredibly hard preparing for their performances and are very excited at the prospect of performing in front of an audience. We have been so impressed with their enthusiasm and effort to learn their songs. The fact that they were told that Father Christmas might make an appearance if they try their hardest might be a contributory factor towards their efforts!

### **Lower Nursery**

The last two weeks have been so busy, the highlight being our school trip to the Polka theatre where we watched “The Night Before Christmas”. The theatre, adorned with props and bright lights certainly held the children’s attention, nurturing a real sense of wonder and curiosity which are wonderful moments for us to capture. They all seemed to have loved the experience and were glad to have gone.

Christmas crafts are now in full swing and not a moment goes by without glitter being sprinkled somewhere! The children are enjoying working with bright colours and are widening their vocabulary around the Christmas theme enhanced by our winter wonderland curiosity cottage! We have also filled the book shelf with a variety of Christmas stories.

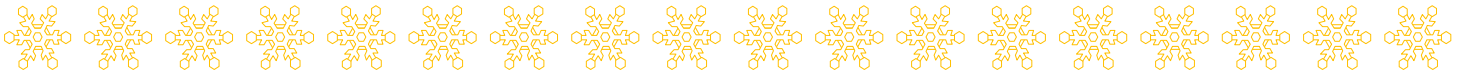
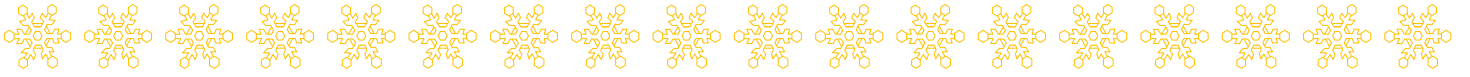
Our practical life shelves continue to be in high demand during the day. Montessori teeth brushing, opening and closing containers and cutting the toy birthday cake into quarters seem to be the most popular. The children are practising many life and self-help skills and are prompted to do things by themselves when using the activities here.

Forest school saw the children make mud paint. They mixed powder paint, water and mud before painting tree trunks using one-handed tools. The forest rangers enjoyed observing the changes that occurred as they mixed the paint and mud together with water collected from the stream. After the past rainy days, the young explorers then did lots of jumping in the puddles and the stream enjoying the cause and effect of this movement.

Our book corner often attracts the children. They choose a variety of books both fiction and non-fiction. The children display many of the first skills in becoming readers. They demonstrate that they know how to hold a book and turn pages. It is lovely to witness how they share stories together, however at times we need to remind them to place the books back on the shelves – keep this up at home please!

Painting with paintbrushes is a great way to work on hand strength for fine motor skills and pre-writing skills development. The children showcase their creative skills when using the easel outside or in the classroom, producing beautiful artwork for various members of their families. Some of their work has been displayed throughout the Nursery. They seem to like painting monsters at the moment.

Our home corner has welcomed some fairy-tale guests; The Three Little Pigs and the Big Bad Wolf are now stationed in the home corner! The children have been instructed to remind the Big Bad Wolf to be kind and only eat the food from the fridge.





## Upper Nursery

The children have had an exciting few weeks at school. A huge highlight has been our recent trip to the Polka Theatre to see *The Night Before Christmas* and the 'snow' at the end was a favourite part for everybody! The show really put us in the Christmas spirit and we have started making Christmas crafts, writing Christmas cards and, of course, practising for our upcoming Christmas concert. We have had quite a STEM focus and the children have enjoyed making 3D trees which stand up all by themselves.

The children have been busy focusing on 'o' in their phonics. Some children are even writing some CVC words and we are very impressed with how well their phonics skills are progressing. In maths, we have been focusing on shape over the past few weeks and the children have enjoyed exploring symmetry and repeating patterns. They have created some beautiful work in relation to both of these concepts and it is wonderful to see how concrete this knowledge is becoming.

During free-flow play, the children continue to show great interest in building, with the Community Blocks being a regular choice with many of the children. They have also shown huge interest in our 'magnatiles' and have been creating many different vehicles with these resources. Arts and crafts also continue to be high on the agenda and the children have been particularly interested in using sequins to create an array of sparkly, shiny pictures.





Finally.....

We would like to remind parents we have our Christmas concert on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 9.15 a.m. The children are to come to Nursery dressed in their uniform and Christmas jumpers please. There will be no school after the performance but we hope you will stay on and join us for a tea/coffee and a mince pie. The Children seem to enjoy the 'after party'.

The last day of term is Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December (all children welcome) and is a 'Party Day'. Children can come to Nursery in fancy dress or home clothes; sensible shoes please and a warm coat. School finishes at 11.30 a.m.

Clubs next term are as follows:

Monday – Sport (Sporkids)

Tuesday – Bilingual Beats

Wednesday – Yoga (new Yoga provider)

Thursday – Construction – led by Nursery staff

Friday – Stay and Play (session finishes at 1.30p.m.)

If you wish to join any of the above clubs please contact Mrs Lisa by the end of this week. Children simply adore the chance to stay later at school (they have so much energy!) and clubs finish at 4p.m.

From 7<sup>th</sup> December until 15<sup>th</sup> December our Jewish families will be celebrating Hanukkah and the children will be introduced this week to the Jewish festival through books and visual props – an exciting end to our week.

Best wishes

Nursery Team