**Bligh’s Lane Nursery School**

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***Easter Newsletter***

# **Monthly Theme**

![C:\Users\Mary\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\Y59A814P\MC900286841[1].wmf]()The theme for the month of March is ‘Easter’. We will focus on the ‘Oval’ shape and ‘Pattern Awareness’ (Stripes, zigzags and wavy lines) through discussion and art activities. Our “Story of the Month” will be “Max’s Chocolate Chicken.”

# **Songs and Rhymes**

## Little Peter Rabbit Humpty Dumpty

Little Rabbit Foo Foo Chook, Chook, Chook

 Five Fat Sausages Five Shiny Eggs

 Hickety Pickety 3 Sticky Lollipops

##  5 Little Rabbits Ride a Cock Horse

 One Potato 5 Little Ducks

# **GRtL- Education Works in Pre-School: Helping your child at home**

Here are some more ways that you can help to reinforce our topic and also ways to encourage good behaviour at home:

* Point out oval shapes or patterns at home or in town - if possible
* Talk about what you are doing when you are dividing up cakes or sandwiches – use the words ‘divide’, ‘cut in half’ etc.
* Name the shapes of the sandwiches – or ask your child what shape of sandwich / piece of bread they would like
* Let your child help you set the table – tell them how many knives and forks you need and talk to them about Left and Right – they are already doing this in school
* If you have time (maybe at the weekends) encourage your child to dress himself/herself – your child is at a stage where he/she wants to do things for him/herself. This activity not only develops confidence, independence, and physical skills, but also logical thinking and sequencing skills.
* Buy some stickers for encouraging good behaviour at home – they mean so much to your child and are a visible sign of your approval

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**EASTER CELEBRATIONS**

The Easter Bunny will hide some Easter Eggs in the playground before Easter – usually during the last week before the Easter holidays. The children will then have and Easter Egg hunt (only one Egg each unfortunately!)

The children will visit Bananas in the Bowling Alley on **Wednesday 13th April** – please make sure that your child is dressed appropriately – LONG SLEEVES MUST BE WORN (to prevent friction burns) AND **NO BASEBALL BOOTS PLEASE** - all children should be wearing shoes with Velcro tapes. This is our last day of school before the Easter holidays. There will be no dinner on this day and children should be collected at the school at 11.30am.

**EASTER HOLIDAYS**

The school will be closed from **Thursday 14th April – Friday 22nd April** **(inclusive)** for the Easter Holidays. **We return to school on Monday 25th April.**

**SCHOOL TIMES**

We hope to return to our normal school times after the Easter holidays. Please make sure your child is dropped off and picked up promptly. Doors open from 8.45am in the mornings and children can be collected from 1pm to 1.15pm. In the interests of safety our external gate will not open until 1 pm and we ask that you maintain social distancing in so far as possible. We also ask that you wear a face covering on entering the school building. We also remind you that parents are not allowed to drive into the carpark unless by prior arrangement with the principal.

**STAFFING UPDATE**

Unfortunately, Mrs O’Doherty has been off for much of the month of March and we envisage this will continue until at least the end of May. This is due to circumstances beyond Mrs O’Doherty’s control and she is really devastated to be missing out on the progress the children are making. We have had a fabulous teacher in Miss Meadhbh Doherty this term and we wish her every success in her future career. We welcome Ms Amanda Faulkner as a new teacher in Room 2. Amanda is very experienced in early years and we hope that she will be with us until Mrs O’Doherty’s return.

We thank you for your patience with us as the pandemic continues to impact ourselves and wider society in general. It is an absolute last resort for us to move to remote learning of any kind as we understand the inconvenience it causes. We hope that it never has to happen again as it disrupts the children and ourselves also.

**BOOK BAGS**

We ask that you return bookbags on a Monday or Tuesday. It is very difficult if many parents don’t return until later in the week as it doesn’t allow us time to get the books changed.



**FACEBOOK AND SCHOOL WEBSITE**

Remember to check out our facebook page by searching for Bligh’s Lane Nursery School or visit our website at <http://blighslanenurseryschool.com/>. You will find news and updates as well as newsletters, photos and other useful information.

**SHARED EDUCATION UPDATE**

We have had two shared sessions so far and we hope to continue sessions in the Summer Term. There are plans for a face-to-face meeting with our partners if it is deemed safe in the current Covid-19 climate.

**EXTENDED SCHOOLS**

The extended schools programme will continue after Easter. Each class will have one more round of sessions (2 weeks) before the program finishes for the year.

**ECO-SCHOOLS AND FOREST SCHOOL**

We have achieved Silver Status in our bid to become an Eco-School! Well done to Mrs Doherty and her eco-team and to all the children. Keep an eye on the Eco-School tab of our website to find out more about our journey and the activities to have done so far.

We will have two more visits to The Forest School at The Playtrail during May to learn more about our environment and bring ideas back for our own school garden.

**SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHER**

The school photographer will visit on Friday 8th April (rescheduled from February). Every child will have 3 different ‘poses’ taken. You will receive a small sample of each of the poses and examples of the various sizes available, and you can then decide if you want to buy any of them. Photographs will be taken during class times. We ask that children wear school uniform on the day as we will also have a class photo taken. You may also bring other members of the family if you wish\* – photographs of family members will be taken as soon as the photographer is set up, usually from 8.30am, so come early if you want photos of your other child / children taken.

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**BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH**

 Zosia Patak Isla McLaughlin Cian Holden

**Happy Easter!**