MC900078840[1] **Bligh’s Lane Nursery School**

**Newsletter February 2024**

Monthly Theme

##### The theme for this month is ‘Myself and My Family’. The children will be involved in discussions about themselves, the people they love and people who help us. We will be talking about our bodies, how they work and the importance of healthy foods and exercise. If you have anything ‘Love’ related e.g. Heart shapes, please bring them into school. Our story of the month is the much loved fairytale ‘Little Red Riding Hood.’

***Songs and Rhymes***

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| * Friends | * I have ten little fingers |
| * Polly put the kettle on | * Two little eyes |
| * When Goldilocks went to the house of the Bears | * One Little Finger * Open Them, Shut Them |
| * Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes | * Fire Engine Rhyme |
| * If you’re happy and you know it | * I look in the mirror |
| * Granny’s glasses * Rock-a-bye baby | * Miss Polly had a Dolly * I wiggle my fingers * Bend your body |

 Early Mathematical Experiences

We will be developing an awareness of the Heart shape this month and also reinforcing prepositions and concepts: ‘In Front / Behind, First and Last’. There should also be lots of opportunity to point out ‘heart shapes’ in town this month! The development of other aspects of maths can be seen on the Monthly Planning sheet on the Parents’ Notice Board.

j0251301Early Science

The children will be experimenting with mixing colours to make new colours using paint and crepe paper. Other aspects of science will be explored during discussions about the body and functions of major organs (in simple terms).

MC900048279[1]Mid-Year Reports

##### Mrs Doherty, Mrs Woods and Mrs O’Doherty have completed the children’s mid-year Reports. You will have had the opportunity to meet with your child’s teacher to discuss your child’s progress, thank you for your time in coming to see us.

Dental Hygiene

As part of our topic this month, we will be learning about “People who help us”. We will talk about going to the dentist and learn about the importance of looking after our teeth. The children will learn about the importance of looking after their teeth and healthy eating and drinking.

People Who Help Us

We hope to have visits from people who work in our community to tell the children about their jobs. It used to be possible to have paramedics and firefighters visit with their emergency vehicles but, sadly, this is no longer the case. However, we will have a doctor come to talk to the children about how they help people every day- perhaps they will inspire some future medics!

Focusing on Developing Your Child’s Language Skills

MC900056589[1]The staff have been working especially hard this year with promoting the development of language skills. During our last parent/teacher meetings lots of parents asked how they can help their child, so in addition to the weekly book and ‘Book of the Month’ will begin to send home language packs. The activities in these packs aim to give you some idea of how you can help to boost your child’s language development at home. A little time spent helping your child with language each week will help him/her to be ready for the demands of Primary school. You will also find a ‘Parents’ Comments’ book which can be used to let us know how your child responds to the activities. We may also send home packs which promote mathematical or another area of development. Your child will not get an extra ‘homework pack’ on the week they have the ‘Book of the Month.’

**To help us get the children’s books ready every week we ask that you return book-bags on Monday.**

Getting Ready to Learn- Come Read with Me

Thank you to you all for your commitment to borrowing and reading books to your children from our lending library. We are launching our ‘Come Read with Me’ sessions as part of our Getting Ready to Learn promotion of reading. Parents can sign up to come in for 15-20 minutes at the beginning of the day to read a story/stories to your child and other children in our book corner. You could even bring your own favourite book to share. It is a ‘low-key’ activity that your child will love and we strongly encourage you to take part. A sign up sheet will soon be available in the hallway for each class..

Banyan Theatre

We are delighted that Banyan Theatre will be coming to Bligh’s Lane on 23rd February with the story of ‘Red Riding Hood’. These productions are always such a magical experience and the children will be so excited to tell you about it.

Nursery of Sanctuary

We have been delighted to have so many parents show and interest and take part in our Air-Fryer Cooking sessions. It has been a great way for parents to meet each other and also to learn something new. We will continue to look for other opportunities for parents which offer similar benefits.

Eco-Schools and Forest Schools

Children and staff will continue to work on our school environment as part of our Eco-School status . They will look for signs of Spring and begin to think about planting for growing season . Again we ask for any parents or grandparents with a particular interest in this area to lend us their ‘green fingers’.

The children also continue our weekly ‘Woodland Wednesday’ outdoor play sessions. They enjoy these sessions no matter what the weather is doing and learn so much from the carefully planned activities that staff set up outside.

Snack Money Reminder

Please remember to pay your weekly snack money. It is a bargain at £3 per week- many nurseries charge double this! As well as buying the foods and drinks for snack it also pays for our trips out and for any extra activities within school such as Banyan Theatre.

Birthdays this Month

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| * Ella-Grace Sharp * Eábha Dobbins * Lavender Moore | * Odhrán McDaid * Jacob Fahy |