



Hi All, the year has flown by and we are busy preparing for December and the excitement of Christmas. There is 32 days left for shopping and buying gifts as well as ensuring the children enjoy the build up to the big day !!! As many parents are aware Laura in Jelly Tots is expecting her first child in January 2020. Laura will be starting her maternity leave at the end of December and has decided to leave nursery and spend time with her first born at home. Laura has been at the nursery for 12 years and will be missed by all. I am sure you join us in wishing Laura all the best going forward with her new family.

Our Topic at nursery for the Winter Term is... 'Celebrations and Topics'.

The book for this month is 'The Night before Christmas'

Find out what we are up to on a daily basis by following us on



TWITTER; search for swansyardley. Alternatively, go to our nursery website and read our room blogs or learn about future events on www.littleswans.org.uk

Heroes News

During December the Heroes will be taking part in many Christmas activities such as; making Christmas cards, decorating the tree, making folders, baking, making placemats and much more. The Heroes are practicing their nativity which they will perform in the next couple of weeks.

The children will be playing party games, seeing Santa and we are hoping to organise a special Christmas activity... watch this space !

We will also be doing a lot of dancing and will be learning Christmas songs. The children will be learning to hold a pencil correctly to form letters as this is what we will be focusing on in the New Year. The Heroes will be visiting Carrs lane to perform nativity for the nannies and grandads, the children will bake cakes the day before to take with them, yummy!

For the nativity performance can all Parents please ensure you send your child in with their costume by

Monday 2nd December. For further information regarding the nativity you are welcome to speak to Atikha/Shaida. Thank you.

Rolos News

Rolos children will also be joining in with Christmas activities, the children will be encouraged to do a lot of sharing and will be talking about Christmas and sharing experiences during circle times. The children will be making fake snow and will be looking to see what animals live in the snow. We are hoping it does snow this year so children can explore outside! The Rolos will be continuing to look at letter recognition as they will look for letters in the environment. The Rolos are also hoping to have a special Christmas activity planned Watch this space!!

Jelly Babies and Jelly Tots

Jelly babies will be getting very creative this month as they have a busy month ahead, they will be making Christmas crackers, cards, calendars, folders, and will be making a sensory box which will include tinsel, ribbon and lights. The babies will be creating fake snow using foam and glitter. Parents can you please bring in some family photos as staff are creating a photo book for the children.

Jelly tots will also be taking part in Christmas activities, towards the end of December all children will take their folders home. Jelly tots will be looking at similarities and differences using mirrors and will be sharing photos with each other. The children will then be learning naming basic body parts. We will also be looking at different types of transport and the sounds they make, sounds like fun!

Smarties & Sweeties News

During December Smarties will be doing Christmas activities too, they will be making Christmas cards, crackers, salt dough, hats and lots more. The children will be creating a display around Christmas which will have an advent calendar on, the children will be learning to count and recognise numbers. Smarties will also be doing baking and will be learning the names of different ingredients they use. As well as taking part in Christmas activities, the sweeties will be having sensory play with pasta, kidney beans, alphabet spaghetti and foam. Sweeties will be creating a Christmas display where children will be learning to recognise and write out different numbers. They will be learning to handle tools safely such as scissors and shape cutters when doing activities. Sweeties are hoping it snows as they really want to explore in some snow!

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Dates for your diary: From Monday 2nd December until Thursday 2nd January 2020

Forest School at Yardley School for Rolos, Sweeties and Heroes will be on a Monday and Friday. Children will go on a Rota basis please speak with your child's key person to see when it is their turn. Children will go from 9.30am - 11am

Staff Changes from January 2020

We have a few changes in staffing from January 2020.

Jelly Tots

Rafhit from Smarties has been promoted to room supervisor and will be the new supervisor in the Jelly Tots room. Rafhit has been at the nursery for 3 years and has a wealth of experience working with the two year old children. Zoe will remain in Jelly Tots and work alongside Rafhit and we are currently interviewing apprentices.

Smarties

Ashleigh and Asma have successfully completed their apprenticeships and will be working in Smarties from January with Kareema and Saba as qualified nursery nurses. Well done

Rolos

Hannah will be leaving us at the end of December to go and work in a primary school and is hoping to travel with her partner Ben. We are currently interviewing for a supervisor, however in the short term Atikha will oversee the running of the Rolos room until we have found a successful applicant. We will keep you informed. We wish Hannah all the best going forward and thank her for her time at Little Swans ☺

December Dates for your Diary

Heroes' nativity at Carrs Lane will be on **Tuesday 3rd December 10-11**. Children who do not do a Tuesday will need to meet us there for 10:00Am.

Christmas Party will be on **Sunday 8th December 12-4**, this will be at **Sheldon Heath social club**, and tickets are on sale in the office, **£5adult £4 child**.

Heroes' nativity performance for the parents will be on **Tuesday 10th December** at the church next to the tile shop, Parents need to bring children to the church for 1:50pm ready in their costumes.

Christmas Party at nursery will be on **Wednesday 18th December**, parents need to bring in a present for their child for Santa to give to the children, **presents** need to be **in by Monday 16th December**, present must be clearly labelled with both names and no bigger than A4 size. Due to space we are unable to invite children to the party who do not attend nursery on Wednesday, but we will have lots of other fun activities they can join in with ☺

Friday 20th December is the last day for the grant children who attend nursery for only 15 hours per week, term time only. Term will start again **on Monday 6th January 2020**.

Nursery closes on **Tuesday 24th December** at **12:15** for all children and will re-open on **Thursday 2nd January 2020**.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone from all the staff at Little Swans ☺

IMPORTANT MESSAGE FOR PARENTS!!

Christmas Payments

As you are aware the nursery closes for a week at Christmas.

This week is still payable as stated in your contract.

Therefore two weeks fees will be due on Friday 20th December 2019. This will cover the following weeks:

Week commencing 23rd December 2019

Week commencing 30th December 2019

Payments will be as normal from Friday 3rd January 2020

Parents who pay their childcare fees directly to the nursery through BACS/ voucher payments **do not need to amend their payment dates.**