

Welcome back to the summer term at nursery. The spring term ended with a lovely visit from zoo lab, the children had a fantastic time and were able to handle and learn about a tarantula, snake, African land snail, rats, rabbit and a frog. All the children sat lovely and were really quite making sure they didn't scare the animals. Jenny has now moved to Wales and is settling into her new home and school, Kareema is now working in **Smarties**, she has previously worked in other nurseries and has many years' experience working with children in the Early Years. We will be having the photographer at nursery on Thursday 10th May and Friday 11th May from 9am. If your child does not normally attend on these days or you would like them to have their photo taken with a sibling who does not attend nursery you can bring them along to nursery at 11am on either day for their photograph to be done. We have our first Open Day of the year this Saturday 5th May from 11am – 3pm, the open day is a fantastic opportunity for existing parents to bring their child along and have a look at their child's room and the rest of the nursery together ☺

Our Topic at nursery for the Summer Term is.....
Our Environment. Our book of the month is **The Tiger Who Came to Tea** ☺

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



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

Pre School News This Month **Heroes and Rolos** will be learning all about the tiger who came to tea and Dianne is trying to arrange a visit to a café for us, we will also be making our own tea and having a role play tea party as well as playing with animals and sensory items. ☺ We will also be doing lots' of pencil control work, learning to hold pencils correctly to help us getting ready for school. The children will also be learning about the school environment and visiting Yardley School to watch assemblies. We will also be turning our role play into a school uniform shop to help us recognise uniform. If you have any reception size uniform at home or book bags for our shop we would really appreciate your donations. We will also be discussing how we are going to get to school as part of parents evening. For Jolly Phonics **Heroes** will be learning the letter 'T' and completing activities from 'J', before starting letter 'P'. **Rolos** will also be doing letter recognition work, such as recognising the letters in their names as well as playing eye spy which will also incorporate shape recognition.

Sweeties News

We will also be reading the topic book 'The Tiger Who Came to Tea' and making a display based on our learning and the story. The children will be exploring textures using different sensory materials and will be collecting lots of items to create their own sensory box. We would like to start making some books of our own based on our families and would really appreciate it if you could provide Sweeties with some photos to bring into nursery. Thank you. We have lots of children toilet training and would appreciate if you could support this at home through reading stories and implementing reward charts.

Smarties News

This month **Smarties** will begin to read the topic book 'When the Tiger came to Tea' and will be doing lots of activities based on the story like having a role play tea party. The children will be encouraged to explore the outdoor environment, making observations on changes which happen as well as planting some bulbs and seeds. While outside we will be continuing to practice balancing etc... on the apparatus.

We have had lots of parents ask about potty training, some children are ready and we have spoken with those parents individually for the other children we will begin to introduce the concept of potty/ toilet training through reading books and role playing with the dolls. You could help with potty training at home by also reading books and introducing the potty this will ensure consistency between home and nursery.

We would also like children to bring in family photos from home as we will be learning about the people we love and sharing photos with our friends and teachers.

Jelly Babies & Jelly Tots News

This month in **Jelly Babies** the children with support will be creating their new display board based on the topic book 'When the Tiger Came to Tea'. The children as well as being very creative will also be spending a lot more time in the garden areas carrying out focus activities to support their next steps... let's keep our fingers crossed for the nice weather ☺ The Jelly Babies enjoy outdoor play and exploring the environment at their own pace so staff have planned to enhance this learning further. The children will also be practicing their fine motor skills, practicing their grasps when handling different objects. The children will be doing baking to further support all areas of development, a favourite activity with the babies as you can imagine. What a fun and fantastic month May will be!!!

This month in **Jelly Tots** the children will be practicing drinking from open top cups during mealtimes and exploring skills such as pouring during water play. The children will also be making bubbles in the water using washing up liquid and sponges. We will also be exploring textures such as wet and dry sand and using describing words to support sensory exploration. The children will be making their own play dough and making different structures. To further support the children's fine motor skills we will be doing lots of activities which enable the children to practice their tripod grip.

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Dates for your diary: From Tuesday 1st May until Thursday 31st May 2018

Story Sessions at the library: Every other Monday for preschool first session for Rolos is Monday 30th April 2018
Nanny Shirley: Due to personal circumstances Nanny Shirley informs us weekly if she is able to attend
Forest School: Heroes will visit forest school at Yardley School every Monday morning and Rolos will go on a Friday morning.

Upcoming Events and Dates

• Notice for all parents

***Drop in SENCO Session**

Dianne has taken over the role of the setting based SENCO and will be offering parents and staff a drop-in session on Friday 1st June 2018 10:00am – 11.00am at nursery. This session provides you with the opportunity to sought advice if you have any concerns regarding your child's development or would like information about other professionals and their services in the local community.

Notices for Parents

- Can all parents please ensure their children's belongings are clearly labelled, including coats and summer hats? Thank you
- Please remember to bring a summer hat into nursery each day with your child as the weather is starting to change over the next few months.
- Children in Jelly Babies and Jelly Tots are able to have sun cream applied by staff please ensure your child's sun cream is brought into nursery labelled.
- If parents have any donations of old school uniform, pumps, bags etc... these would be really appreciated by nursery to help make the school uniform in the preschool areas to support the transition into schools.
- We are still developing our interactive boards outside. If you have any old handles. Bolts, door chains etc... we would be able to make good use of them.
- Sweeties have asked me to remind parents to bring in a water bottle for their child, labelled. As well as pull ups for children toilet training and plenty of spare clothes.

Thank you ☺

Important dates - May 2018

Nursery open day - Saturday 5th May from 11am - 3pm.

Nursery photographer will be in on Thursday 10th and Friday 11th May from 9am.

Assembly at Yardley School - Friday 11th May at 9.15am. (Heroes)

Assembly at Yardley School - Thursday 17th May at 9.15am (Rolos)

Tuesday 15th May - The living egg experience will be delivered to preschool. All children in nursery will have the opportunity to watch the baby chicks hatch during this 10 day experience and learn how we care for the baby chicks and what they need to survive.

Wednesday 23rd May - 2nd visit to Carrs Lane residential housing as part of the sharing memories project.

Staff Changes:

We have made a few changes to staffing to facilitate the changes to areas:

Toni from Jelly Tots is now working in Sweeties and Elle from Sweeties is based in Rolos. We have a new apprentice in Smarties; Yasmin who is working towards her level 2 qualification and will be at nursery from 9am - 5.30pm each day.