

We hope everyone had a lovely Bank holiday and enjoyed some quality time together. Please could we remind all parents that as the weather is improving, we kindly ask that you do not send children to nursery in lace-ups of any description/crocs/open toe shoes. We recommend velcro trainers (to promote independence) or rubber-soled shoes as these are most appropriate for running and climbing in the playground. This term we will be implementing a new speech and language toolkit called **Wellcomm** (initially we will be trialing the toolkit with our pre-school children and we will then look to implement this across the whole of the Nursery). Wellcomm tracks the progress of all children, regardless of their ability. This provides the opportunity to identify areas of concern in language, communication and interaction development, in order to ensure targeted early intervention. The Wellcomm toolkit provides an array of resources enabling delivery of focused activities to target those children who have some language difficulties, enhance the skills of all children and increase the number of children whose language, communication and interaction development is within the expected range for the age group. Wellcomm provides a speech and language assessment that can be used at different stages of the child's development to understand progress. It is a diagnostic tool to enable us to advise parents should the need arise for external help and support (such as speech and language therapists). We are very excited to be implementing the Wellcomm toolkit and monitoring the impact it has on children's development. The speech and language waiting list with the NHS is extremely long but the Wellcomm toolkit will provide interventions within Nursery to help enhance children's communication and interaction skills. If you would like to find out more information regarding the Wellcomm toolkit please speak to your child's key person. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Angela (from the Smarties room) for her time at Little Swans as she will be leaving us at the end of this month to return to Germany to be with her family and friends.

Our Topic at nursery for the Summer Term is.....
'All About Me'.

The book for this 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

Heroes News This month we will be focusing on our transition to school. We will transform our role-play area into a school which will include a library. In addition, the children will engage in PE lessons and engage in weekly assemblies. The children will discuss their emotions in relation to how they are feeling about starting school and any worries they may have. We will be showing children photos/videos of their school and reading lots of stories about what the children can expect when they start. The children will be provided with opportunities to try school uniform on which will make them familiar with the clothes they will be wearing and allow them to become independent in getting changed. This month we will be learning about Eid and engage in lots of activities to celebrate this festival. The Heroes children will have an Eid party on Tuesday 18th May. We would like to thank parents for their continued support and for contributing to their child's learning journal.

Rolos News- Rolos will be learning all about school; we will be turning our role-play area into a school and will be acting out different experiences that occur within a school environment. The children will be able to dress up in school uniforms and take on roles such as being the class helper. We will be having weekly PE lessons, the children will learn how to get changed. In addition, we will have weekly reading sessions all about the school environment and learning how stories are structured. The Rolos children will be learning their 3D shapes and be learning how to recognise numbers and write these down.

Sweeties News

This month the Sweeties will be celebrating the end of Ramadan by taking part in Eid activities. We will be making a moon and star mobile, sharing our Eid celebration experiences and making hena designs with the paints. In addition, some of the Sweeties children will be leaving for school in September, so we will be getting ready by looking at different school uniforms and the colour uniform that we will be wearing. The Sweeties children will role-play experiences from school and read books all about starting school. This will build the children's confidence in preparation for them starting their new environment; during circle time they will also discuss any worries they may have around starting school. This month we will also be baking alphabet cookies and will be cutting up and preparing our own fruit during snack time to encourage our independence. The book of the month is 'The Tiger Who Came For Tea' so we will engage in lots of activities around this book such as having our own tea party and writing down the items we would need to have our own tea party.

Smarties News

This month Smarties will be engaging in sensory activities such as rainbow rice, soapy water and sensory bags which will contain glitter and food colouring. The children will be developing their communication and language skills as during circle time we will be discussing/modelling the activities set up in the room for the day and we will provide children with opportunities to talk about their likes/dislikes in relation to the activities. The Smarties enjoy baking; we will extend this by using our mathematical development to measure out ingredients/counting out how many biscuits we have made as a group. In addition, we will celebrate with the children their finished baked goods and recap the baking process. In addition, we will talk about the importance of brushing our teeth as we have listened to feedback from parents who have highlighted that some children struggle with this at home. We will support this by setting up our role-play area as a dentist and use toothbrushes to create artwork/brush laminated teeth with sugar bugs drawn on them with whiteboard pens

Jelly Babies

This month in Jelly Babies will be making Eid cards for their loved ones. The babies will be using different materials such as tissue paper, glitter, card and paint to create their cards. The babies will also be making fruit salad and cake to take home for Eid. In addition, we will also have an Eid party at Nursery to celebrate the end of Ramadan. The babies will be dancing, trying new food and taking part in party games. The babies will be exploring in sensory/messy play such as sand, water, jelly rice and pasta. The babies will explore the dressing up clothes; they will get to experience the feel of different textures and try on a range of different outfits and hats. The babies will be joining in with activities based on colour and the older babies will be learning to name different colours. This will be set up by having a colour theme a day in the room using different coloured lights and materials. This month the babies will be planting our own plants and watering the plants will be part of our daily routine. In addition, the babies will be using their gross motor skills in the garden with the help from their teachers they will be climbing up and down small steps on the wooden bridge and will be encouraged to walk up and down the steps on the slide.

Jelly Tots

This month the Jelly Tots children will be learning to count in the correct sequence. We will be making Eid cards and engaging in activities relating to this celebration. The Jelly Tots will be learning how to draw shapes in a variety of materials such as sand, shaving foam etc. The children will be learning the name of the 2D shapes and will be exploring the shapes within their learning environment both indoors and outdoors. The Jelly Tots will also have their role-play transformed into a café which will help develop lots of areas of learning such as their communication skills and their imagination. In addition, staff will also provide mark making opportunities in the café so that children can write down what they would like to order. The role play area is also a great resource for the children to demonstrate their counting skills of different food items. The children will also be encouraged and shown how to ride bikes and scooters safely in the outdoor area and learn to turn take with their friends using a visual resource such as a sand timer.

Upcoming Events and Dates

May Dates for your Diary

- **Monday 3rd May**- Bank holiday Nursery will be closed.
- **Tuesday 4th May**- Children return to Nursery after bank holiday.
- **Saturday 8th May**: Nursery open day **11am-3pm (drop in anytime)**, everyone is welcome! This is an opportunity to view your child's room/displays. Please invite any friends/family that may be interested in the Nursery.
- **Tuesday 25th May**- Photographer in Nursery taking photos of children (details to follow at a later date)
- **Wednesday 26th May**- Photographer in Nursery taking photos of children (details to follow at a later date).
- Half term for term time only children- **Monday 31st May- Friday 4th June**

Drop in SENCO Session

Rose is the nursery's setting-based SENCO and will be offering parents and staff a virtual drop-in session (ring the nursery on Thursday 27th May 10am until 11am. This session provides you with the opportunity to seek 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.

Notice for Parents

- As the weather is changing can parents bring in a sun hat labelled with their child's name and also ensure sun protection is applied before coming into nursery. Thank you
- Pre-school parents please notify us of the school your child will be attending so that we can request transition photos of the school environment to show the children. Thank you.
- Please speak to management if you cannot access the learning journal site as we send important messages via this portal.
- Please ensure your child is wearing suitable footwear, our
- Can we please remind all parents to bring in their child's water bottle each day filled with fresh drinking water. These will be refilled throughout the day and sent home at the end of each day to be cleaned.
- Please make sure that your child brings in a Nursery bag with them each day. It is also essential that they have a pair of spare clothes as children can have accidents, get messy or wet!
- If you need to change your child's drop off/ collection times please do not hesitate to get in contact with the office so that we can change these for you . For example, if you would like to change your collection time from 5pm to 6pm. We understand that working patterns / commitments can change monthly or weekly.
- If you have any old primary school uniform you could donate to the Nursery for the pre-school rooms so that they can use it within their school role-play area we would be very grateful!

Parents' evening consultation forms

Thank you to everyone who engaged in the parents' evening meetings; the feedback from staff was very positive.

You will find your child's consultation form uploaded onto their learning journal page. In addition, their next steps will also be uploaded onto this area in due course . If you have trouble accessing these documents please speak to a member of staff in the Nursery office who will be able to help you.

Letter sound of the week

(Sweeties, Rolos and Heroes)

The timetable below highlights the sound of the week that pre-school children will be learning (please refer to your child's learning journal for more details.

Set 3 -(c,k) Set 4 (ck,e)

04/05/21 c- learn rhyme/sound
10/05/21 k- learn rhyme/sound
17/05/21 ck- learn rhyme/sound
24/05/21 e- learn rhyme/sound

Thank you!

Coronavirus notice for parents

- Thank you once again for continuing to wear face masks/coverings, keeping your distance and for following our drop off/collection procedures.
- Please can parents make sure they are parking in designated parking bays. If the Nursery car park is full then we have permission for you to use the tile shop and social club car parks. Thank you.
- Drop off times are the following: Smarties and Pre School - 7.30am, 8.30am, 9am and 9.30am Jelly Babies - 7.40am, 8.40am, 9.10am and 9.40am
- Please could parents continue to ring the Nursery if your child is ill so that we can monitor illness. If your child is showing any signs of coronavirus they will need to isolate for 10 days or get a coronavirus test.

Thank you for your continued support to keep everyone safe.