


Hi all, Welcome back to everyone who had some time off nursery during the October half term 😊 Not long until Christmas now, and we have provisionally arranged a family Christmas party event to take place at Sheldon Heath Social Club on Sunday 10th December from 1 – 4 pm. Tickets will be on sale from next week, once we have confirmed a date with the DJ. Please look out around Nursery for the posters. We have the nursery photographer next week and the theme for the photos is winter/ Christmas for more information please see the dates for your diary below. Have a great month all !!

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

You can also keep up to date with nursery events on Facebook Little Swans Day Nursery @Littleswansdaynursery

Rolos News Welcome to another month of fun and learning activities. This month the children will be learning and taking part in the celebration of Diwali. This festival is known as the festival of light so the children will be making Diya lamps using salt dough. We would like to share with children their friend's experiences, if your family celebrates Diwali and have any photos you would like to bring in or anything special related to the celebration to show the children this would be appreciated 😊

As it's bonfire night we will also be making firework pictures and learning the story behind bonfire night. The children will explore different techniques to produce their fireworks pictures using a fork, glue, and coloured glitter. Children will be encouraged to share their experiences of events they have been to as part of circle time, this will support children's communication and recall of events.

Alongside these activities, the children will also be learning some maths skills to count by rote and with confidence from 1 to 10 and beyond as well as identifying and naming 2D shapes and their properties. The children will have the opportunity to explore sand, water, and soil play as well as mixing colours, this is part of our expressive arts and design planning and enables children to explore a variety of materials to create their own marks. We are still continuing with the topic "All about me", we will be encouraging the children using a variety of activities such as drawing portraits and storybooks about family to share with each other who they live with as well as who their friends are. We also have Remembrance Day, and the children will be making their own poppies.

This month the children will also be participating in cooking activities, and we have planned to make butternut squash soup and bread. To help the children make healthy options at snack time "2 Snack Max" (Startwell) will be joining us and the children will be learning which foods are healthy and help us to grow healthy bodies and minds.



Our Topic at nursery for the Autumn Term is.....
ALL ABOUT ME

Smarties News As winter is finally here, we would like to begin this newsletter by asking parents to provide their child with a hat and gloves. Children do have hoods on their coats however when they are running around in the garden the hoods keep coming off. For the month of November, the staff has planned lots of exciting activities for Smarties. We will be carrying on with supporting children who are still a little unsettled during drop-off. The children have begun to feel confident with the staff in the room and have started to form bonds and get to know their key person through the activities and routines in the Smarties room. Children are developing in confidence each day which is really nice to see as they have only been in Smarties for two months. Let's move on to what's happening in November. We will be celebrating Diwali with the children and having a Diwali party. The children will be exploring colours through various activities like a firework display art. This will also help children with identifying colours. We will also be making paper punch-out lanterns. We will also be celebrating Guy Fawkes night and children will take part in a cooking activity where they will dip bread sticks in melted chocolate and sprinkle on colourful sprinkles. We will add a white chocolate star on top to resemble a firework. We will also be doing a bonfire collage. We will be doing Remembrance Day and showing children what Remembrance Day is all about with the help of pictures. The children will be making poppies using red tissue paper and pipe cleaners which children can take home. We will also be using cupcakes and lollypop sticks to make poppy artwork for the art folders. We will also be celebrating children in need and we will have a selection of fundraising ideas from delicious recipes, arts and crafts that fit in to the curriculum. We will be working on rules and boundaries such as sharing, turn taking and cooperating. Children will also learn about rewards and consequences.

Jelly Babies News This month in Jelly Babies we have lots of exciting activities planned. The babies will be getting messy using glitter and paint to create their own firework displays out of toilet roll tubes. We will also be making Diwali cards and a candle out of salt dough and decorating them with bright colours to take home, this is all going to be lots of fun and the babies will be sparkling with all the glitter 😊 We will be encouraging children to look at their reflections developing a sense of identity, to engage the children we will be encouraging the children to paint the mirrors, whilst doing this activity we will talk about reflection and encourage the children to point to and name different body parts. Jelly Babies love to investigate anything messy, so we will be making cornflour slime this month for the children to explore using their body parts and observing their reactions as the cornflour changes from a liquid to a solid state. As always, we will be continuing to promote physical development focusing on large movements with activities such as throwing, catching, and kicking large footballs. We will also be focusing on using single words.



We have also planned some yummy cooking activities. We will be making flapjacks and encouraging the children to develop their hand-eye coordination when placing ingredients into the bowl, mixing and pouring. We will try to save for home, but the babies do like to sample their cooking 😊

Sweeties News Hello November! In Sweeties this month we have some of the Jelly Tots children joining us, we are all looking forward to helping them settle and make friends. We will also be celebrating Remembrance Day, and Diwali and carry out fun activities linking to them. We love to dance and are really happy that we will be having a Diwali party also. As part of our maths and communication development this month we will be baking a variety of treats to support our understanding of weight, quantities, and numbers this includes making Tiramisu, Coconut balls and puff pastry with sausages. The children enjoy cooking recipes and are always proud of their achievements and excited to take them home to share with their parents. We will also be exploring different creative activities such as gluing and sticking with a variety of materials, painting and investigating colour mixing as well as making marks. Following the recent change in seasons, we will be teaching the children about the processes and differences in these changes as part of their learning and awareness of the world around them, this will include talking about the weather, it becomes colder, the leaves falling of the trees and changing colours as well as what we wear during winter to help our bodies keep warm that we don't wear when it is summer. It would be lovely if you could encourage and support your child when at the park or having a walk to collect leaves, conkers, and acorns for leaf printing so we can make an Autumn display for the children to explore and investigate. The colour of the month is orange in Sweeties, and we will be using this colour a lot in our creative activities by experimenting with mixing different colours together to try to make it.

Heroes News Wow! Where has this year gone with a blink of an eye Christmas is around the corner. We hope everyone is well and getting through these upcoming cold days and nights. We have a lot of fun and exciting activities for November and the children will be having lots of fun as well as the teachers as we practice what we can do and learn new skills. This month we will be celebrating Remembrance Day, Anti-bullying Week, Worlds Kindness Day, Diwali, and Children in Need, will also be teaching children about Road Safety. To celebrate Children in Need Day the children will be making Pudsey masks using paper plates, the children will be painting the paper plates yellow and will be decorating and with some help from their teachers will be making the paper plates into masks. We will be having a picnic with the teddy bears and a have a little tea party. The children will be mark-making Pudsey bear colouring sheets. The children will be learning about World Kindness Day and Anti Bullying Week by watching a small video on why it's important to be kind and will also be reading story books about kindness and applying this to our day and play in Heroes with our friends. We will be talking about feelings and emotions and will be having small discussions on why it's important to be kind to everybody. To celebrate Bonfire Night we will be using lollipop sticks and dipping them into the paint and making stick prints to make our own fireworks, we will also be making our own fireworks by using straws, and tissue paper which is exciting, we will be watching a small clip of fireworks and after will be asking the children what they think Bonfire Night is all about and what did they see in the video clip. To pay our respect to the individuals in which we have lost because of the war. We will be making our own poppies using straws and red and green tissue paper. We will be colouring in our poppies and will be displaying them around the classroom for the month, we will be practicing using correctly one-handed tools such as pens, pencils, and crayons as this will help the children with their fine and gross motor skills. We will also be using spoons to scoop out the balls from the tub and will be transferring them into the muffin tray as this will support and develop the children's eye and hand-coordination skills. We hope you all have a great month 😊

Just a polite reminder, for all children to bring a water bottle each day with their name on it. Also please bring a bag for your child with a change of spare clothes with their name labelled on it. Thank you

PARENT NOTICES

Staff annual leave for this month: No Staff Annual leave in November

STAFFING

Welcome to Zoe. Zoe is qualified level 3 and has been working in Smarties since starting at the nursery on the 16th of October. From November Zoe will work in Heroes with Sairish and be at nursery between the hours of 9 am - 5. 30pm. Zoe has worked in an early year setting previously and has three children of her own.

We will be saying goodbye to Yousra in Jelly Babies, her last day is Friday 10th November. Yousra is leaving to pursue a career in a school environment. We wish her all the best going forward and thank her for her time at the nursery 😊

Room Messages:

All Areas:

Can we please remind parents to bring their child into the nursery with a suitable winter coat, hat, and gloves as it is becoming colder, and the children still access the outdoor areas during the winter months at the nursery. Thank you

Pre-school - Sweeties, Rolos and Heroes

Library Visits ...

Children in areas will go on the following days. Due to ratios, this will be done on a rota

Heroes: Friday

Sweeties: Tuesday

Rolos: Monday

Christmas Closure and payments

The nursery will close on Friday 22nd December at 6 pm and reopen on Tuesday 2nd January 2024 at 7. 30 am.

Parents who pay nursery fees by direct debit **do not** need to make any changes to their payment schedules.

Parents who pay cash weekly **need to make a payment of two weeks' fees on Friday 22nd December to cover the week the nursery is closed. The two weeks' fees will cover W/C 25th December and W/C 1st January.**

Christmas closure is still payable, and fees are calculated taking this into account each year. Thank you

November Dates for Your Diary

Monday 6th November - Children return from Half-term week (EEE funding only)

Wednesday 8th November - Babies and Smarties Photo Day (Winter Theme/ Christmas)

Thursday 9th November - Sweeties, Rolos, and Heroes photo day (Winter theme/ Christmas)

Friday 10th November - Diwali Party

Sunday 9th November - Remembrance Sunday

Sunday 12th November - Diwali

Friday 17th November - Children in need activities at nursery and PJ Day. Just giving page will be created for donations for the charity.

Thursday 30th November - Parents Evening

Important Notices

Mobile Phones

Can we please remind parents not to use their mobile phones when on the nursery premises. Due to safeguarding mobile phone usage is not allowed in all areas of the nursery as they have cameras, and some conversations are not always suitable for children to hear. We also feel that this is a valuable time to communicate with staff about your child and mobile phones can be a distraction. There are multiple notices around the nursery to remind parents. Thank you.

30 HOUR FUNDING

Parents who are eligible for 30-hour funding for the spring term from January 2024 need to apply for their funding code from HMRC (Childcare Choices) and hand this into the nursery no later than 31st December. If you already claim 30-hour funding for a child and wish to do so for the following term, please refresh this code with HMRC no later than 31st December. Codes not validated after this date will not be valid for the Spring term.

Parents Evening

Parents evening will be held on Thursday 30th November, this will replace the end of the month staff meeting. All children must be collected by 4.45 pm to provide staff with time to prepare for the meeting. Appointment lists will be up in all areas from W/c Monday 6th November and appointments will start from 5.10 pm. Please speak with a member of staff in your child's room to arrange your appointment time. If parents are unable to attend parents evening we are not able to offer an alternative appointment due to maintaining ratios during nursery opening hours.

Have a great month all!!

Staff Team at Little Swans 😊