

Hi All

We are now into our second month of a new term and children are starting to settle well in all areas. It has been particularly hard after COVID as our new children have not been able to socialize to the extent they would have done pre COVID. But we are getting there!

We have two members of staff leaving. Sabah from Rolos who will already have left by the time you read this newsletter. Unfortunately she has been unable to work her notice period due to family commitments. Sophie from the baby unit will also be leaving us this month to take up a position in another setting. Sophie has worked with us as an apprentice and as a qualified for the last few years and has decided to move on for more experience. We wish them both well for the future. Emily has now been made up to a qualified member of the team and will be working in Jelly Babies alongside Shaida and Taz. Taz from Babies and Aisha from Smarties have recently joined the staff team and are both apprentices. We are in the process of recruiting for both qualified and apprentice positions.

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

following 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

Our Topic at nursery for the Autumn Term is.....
All about Me

Rolos News

This month in Rolos we will be learning all about Diwali. The children will be making Rangoli art using dyed sand and exploring colours when mixing paints. We will be looking at pictures of how Diwali is celebrated and making Diwali cards where the children will chose their own materials and develop their creative skills.

Rolos will be writing letters in foam using their fingers to explore different textures. We will be practising using one handed tools when using scissors to cut up materials to make firework pictures and will be focusing on learning our startwell characters and healthy eating when making fruit rockets.

We will be starting a new book of the month 'It Was a Cold Dark Night' where Rolos will be learning key events of the story as well as making story maps. We will be learning new Makaton signs throughout the month and would appreciate it if parents could upload videos of the children doing the signs at home. We will be turning our role play area into a bonfire night food stall where the children will be able to use their imagination...

Important dates for you to know as follows:

14th November is when the photographer will be coming into nursery.

25th November is parents evening?

Smarties News

This month the Smarties children will be celebrating Diwali. They will make cards to take home to parents for the celebrations using lots of different materials of their choice; one idea is using a straw to blow through to create lovely paint marks. They will have a choice of different coloured card, lots of different paints as well as sparkly glitter etc.

The children will be learning to recognise shapes such as circle, triangle, star, square, oblong and crescent. To make this an exciting activity we will use shaving foam 'can you find the triangle in the foam?', creating our own shape pictures as well as looking for shapes in the environment to name but a few.

It is also Bonfire month!!! And the children will be making Bonfire pictures on black card using chalk, paint, glitter and paint splatting. Our children will also be exploring the dentist area as part of the role play that we will be setting up. This should be interesting...

And finally if they have the energy after all the above they will be involved in more messy play while learning about different textures.

Jelly Babies News

This month the babies will be exploring the weather change. They will be collecting leaves outside with their friends and staff and we will then make a collage where they can stick and glue their leaves onto paper. We will explore the texture and carry out different activities such as seeing our leaves float in water. They will be collecting water using pots and pans for this activity.

The babies will be looking at pictures from home from our 'All About Me' board.

We will then make our own 'family book' with pictures of family friends and carers.

This month the babies will be exploring different sensory materials; shaving foam, spaghetti, porridge, rice pudding, jelly, pasta and coloured water.

They will spend time gluing and sticking different materials such as tissue paper, bubble wrap, sand, fur, webs, pasta, glitter and sequins.

The babies will also start to take part in group activities where they will turn take and play alongside of each other. This will encourage our babies to play kindly.

The babies will also be baking yummy treats such as carrot cake, blueberry muffins and apple crumble.

By doing this it will encourage them to try different food.

Jelly Tots News

This month we will be using the role play area to dress up for Diwali and make Diwali cards using different crafts and materials.

Its Bonfire month and the children will be making firework display pictures using black card, chalk and sparkly bits and bobs.

In the month of November the Jelly Tots will be continuing to focus on learning the daily routine and nursery good behaviour policy in order to develop their understanding and following simple instructions. The Tots will also be carrying out activities to celebrate Diwali and bonfire night.

The children will be making their own Deja lamps, Diwali cards and firework pictures using chalk and glitter.

The Tots will be doing some baking; mixing ingredients to make biscuits.

The children will be encouraged to use instruments in the room to make music and find different ways of moving during dance time.

They will be exploring sensory play with play dough and sand and will be using rollers, cutters jugs and spades to carry out this activity.

Heroes News

Hello we hope you are all well.

The book of the month is 'The Cold Dark Night'.

This month the Heroes will be having lots of fun with colour. They will be making rainbow pictures using lots of different coloured paint and tools such as paintbrushes, sponges, bristle brushes and using their hands to make hand prints.

As it is Bonfire month we will also be making firework pictures. We will make extra ones to celebrate Diwali. We will have circle time where the topic of conversation will be Diwali and the children will get the opportunity to bring in candle pictures which they will have made from home. These will be great to use during our 'Show and Tell' discussions.

The children will be exploring with sand and coloured powder paint to talk about colours while using lots of hand movements.

WE will also be involved in lots of water and soap activities where we will bathe our baby dolls, put their nappies on and help to get them dressed. This will help the children to learn how to become more independent when visiting the toilet during the day for the children that are in the process of potty training.

Please Note: If your child does not have a water bottle at the setting can you please provide one with your child's name on. Thank you.

Notices for parents

All areas

Donations of resources:

This month we would appreciate any donations of Junk boxes, Toilet Rolls, egg boxes, Yoghurt pots etc... for the children to make decorations as well as junk model.

Labelling - Can we please remind all parents to label all of their child's belongings, including nursery uniform and outer wear such as coats.

Sleep Time - Can we please remind parents for children in Babies, Tots and Smarties to provide nursery with a sleep sheet (cot sheet) and small blanket for sleep time? Thank you

Allergies - We have several children at nursery who have allergies to specific foods/ ingredients. **Can we please remind parents that we are a nut free setting as well as grapes.** Children are not allowed to bring food in from home, unless they have packed lunches and this has been agreed with a staff member beforehand.

Passwords - Can we please remind parents to ensure if you are unable to collect your child from nursery and send someone else please ensure they have the passwords you provided at registration. Staff will not let children leave with someone who is not able to provide the passwords. Thank you

Items From Home - Can we please ask parents unless they have spoken with a staff member previously about their child bringing items in from home for comfort, that parents **do not** bring their child to nursery with dolls, teddies, toys etc... as they may get lost and sometimes can cause the child distress as other children may want them. Thank you

Water Bottles - Children's water bottles for nursery should only have water in them. Thank you.

Nursery Dress Code - Can we please remind parents to ensure that their child wears shoes with no laces at nursery. We have this in place to avoid children tripping over and having accidents. We also have a no jewellery policy in place, children are only allowed to wear stud earrings. If your child wears an item due to culture reasons then please speak with a member staff who will provide you with a disclaimer form to sign.

Staffing / Room Changes

Pre School / Rolos

Sabah will be leaving due to family commitments. Unfortunately we have only been given very short notice. We wish Sabah well for the future. Elle has been made up to supervisor. We will let you know who will replace the qualified position shortly.

Sweeties name change to Heroes

For ease of reference now the Sweeties have moved over to the pre-school building they will be known as Heroes. So for future referral when you call the nursery press to be put through to the Heroes room.

Jelly Babies

Sophie will be leaving us this month to take up a position at another nursery. She has been with the setting a long time starting when she was an apprentice and is now ready for another adventure. We wish her well for the future. Emily has taken the qualified position in this room.

November Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 10th November and Thursday 11th November - Nursery photographer (People in Pictures) will be coming to take photos of all children in all areas. If you do not want your child to have their picture taken please let their key person know. For those having photos they can wear the clothes you would like them photographed in we will keep them clean and tidy. Please put a comb or brush in their bag so that we can ensure they have tame hair and not unruly on the day!!

Friday 19th November - Children in Need Day. Children to dress up in a costume/dress of their choice. A donation of £1 per child would be much appreciated to go to the Charity.

Thursday 25th November - Dee our setting senco will be free for you to talk to if you have any concerns about your child between the hours of 10am - 11m this is open to all parents.

Thursday 25th November - Parents Evening all Areas. Please ask to see appointment times when you drop your child into nursery. We will carry out these meetings at the setting.