

September has been a very busy month at Nursery as we have had children returning to the setting after lockdown, children who are new to the nursery and children who already attend the Nursery who have moved to a different room. The children have adapted extremely well and you should feel very proud of them as there have been lots of changes this year that none of us could have ever predicted



If you would like to discuss any strategies relating to your child such as how to support them while they are settling in, support around their eating, behaviour etc please speak to your child's key person or management as we are always here to help. The Autumn term is a wonderful month for the children to learn about the world around them and the changes in our environment and the staff have lots of wonderful activities planned for them. Thank you to all of the parents who have uploaded an observation of their child onto the learning journal as this is invaluable and can contribute as evidence towards your child's next steps. The learning journal site encountered a few technical issues that we were made aware of by parents. However, we have been told by the learning journal company that these have been resolved. This term Toni from our Jelly Babies room will sadly be leaving us due to personal circumstances. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Toni for her hard work and commitment to the Nursery over the past three years. Asma (qualified member of staff) is coming back to the Nursery from furlough and will be joining the Jelly Babies team, Asma has worked at the Nursery for two years and knows the children, staff and routines extremely well; we look forward to welcoming her back.

Our Topic at nursery for the Autumn Term is.....

'Out and about in the local community'.

The book for this month is 'Room on the broom'

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 in Heroes we will be looking at Halloween linking to the story of the month. The children will be engaging in jelly play and slime play; letters and numbers will be hidden in the slime for children to find and identify. The staff will encourage the children to find the letter at the beginning of their name. The children will get to participate in an activity incorporating number cauldrons. This will involve the children fishing for different insects and placing the correct number next to the cauldron. This will help with many mathematical development elements such as recognising numbers, comparing amounts, counting 1:1. The children will also be making their own Halloween costumes using different materials (discussing which materials would be suitable for different characters). This will support their imagination and using available props to support their play.

Staff Training and Meetings

Nursery will close early this month for Staff training on: **Safeguarding & teambuilding**

on: **Thursday 29th October 2020**

Please make sure all children are collected by 4:45pm.

Please note: There will be a charge for late collection for any child on the premises after this time.

Smarties & Sweeties News

This month staff will be encouraging children in Smarties to engage in group activities with their key person to help children make friends within a small group. We will be focusing on developing children's confidence by planning opportunities for children to participate in tasks such as putting out bowls at snack time. The children will also be working on their physical skills such as obstacle courses, ball skills in the garden and indoors with music and movement. The smarties will be exploring colours and developing their awareness of colours when mixing these together. There will also be lots of sensory experiences for the children in the room so that they can explore mark making using shaving foam, cornflour whilst being able to smell and feel the materials during the process. The staff will be expanding children's vocabulary with small world characters linking to the story of the month 'Room on the broom'. The children will re-cap the story weekly and using props and actions to support their understanding of the vocabulary used. This month Sweeties will be making Halloween cards by using different painting techniques such as rollers, stamps etc on their piece of card. The children will be baking treats with their friends and learning how to follow instructions in the process. The children will be using materials such as lentils and bottles to make shakers; they will use different materials to explore quiet and loud sounds. Sweeties will be using their number flash cards to park the play cars and trains. In addition, the children will use mark making resources to make road maps to help support children's fine motor and gross skills. The children will be moving in different ways and pretending to be the different animals from the story of the

Jelly Babies

This month the Jelly Babies will be exploring using their senses and participating in activities where they can touch different textured materials such as spaghetti and jelly. The staff will include all areas of learning into the children's sensory play. For example, using cotton wool balls and using these as stamps for painting. The children will be engaging in foam play which will incorporate different colours and the staff will name the colours within the trays. In addition, the children will observe the colour changes in the foam as these occur. The staff will provide opportunities within the children's water play so that the children can make comparisons using their senses such as touching warm water (luke warm) and cold water. The staff will be encouraging children to taste a range of new food such as exotic fruit and they will make note of the children's preferences. The Jelly Babies staff will post photos of the Makaton sign on the week on children's learning journal site and they encourage parents to use the sign of the week and word at home to consolidate children's learning.

Rolos News

This month in Rolos the children will be learning about Autumn. We are going to look at environmental changes such as the leaves changing colour and Autumn treasures such as conkers and acorns. Rolos are going to participate in creative activities such as leaf painting, making hedgehogs out of clay and straws. The children will be reading the story of the month and will look at how the book is structured. The staff will then model how the children can create their own story maps. The children will have opportunities to make their own slime and Halloween biscuits. The staff will be providing speaking opportunities for children to discuss suitable materials for Halloween costumes, if parents would like to upload pictures of children wearing costumes these can be shared with their friends.

Little Swans Day Nursery Newsletter page 2

Dates for your diary: From 1st October - 31st October

Upcoming Events and Dates

Drop in SENCO Session

Rose is the nursery's setting-based SENCO and will be offering parents and staff a drop-in session on **Thursday 28th October 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

- Please make sure that you label all of the child's belongings such as their coat, shoes etc as children can have the same items within a Nursery classroom and this can make it very difficult for staff.
- Please speak to management if you cannot access the learning journal site as we send important messages via this portal.
- If your child borrows spare clothes please could you make sure these are returned to the Nursery as we are running very low.
- If you have any clothes, socks, etc that your child has grown out of we would really appreciate any donations (we will wash these in Nursery before they are sent to any room).
- Please make sure that your child brings in a Nursery bag with them each day as they may have letters, or creations they have made to go inside. It is also essential that they have a pair of spare clothes as children can have accidents, get messy or wet!
- Thank you to parents who have uploaded photos on the learning journal in relation to children's next steps. Please continue this as it gives staff a picture of how children are demonstrating/applying their learning at home.

Nursery Open day

Saturday 10th October
Drop in between 11am-3pm

- This is an opportunity for you to invite friends or family who are interested in signing up their child to the Nursery.
- We also welcome parents to look at the room that your child has moved to/speak to the room supervisor.

October Dates for your Diary

- **Thursday 1st October-** PJ day, raising money for Age UK (we will let you know how much the Nursery raises, donations can be made online)
- **Saturday 10th October-** Nursery open day 11am-3pm
- **Friday 9th October-** Children's September baseline data will be sent home to parents.
- **Monday 12th October-** Children who started Nursery in September or returned to the Nursery in September will have their next steps flowers sent home to parents.
- **Thursday 29th October-** Halloween dress up day and party for children in Nursery.
- **Mid October-** Nursery will notify parents of how we will be carrying out parents evening consultations.

Coronavirus notice for parents

- Please continue to use the hand basins to wash your child's hands before they enter Nursery. Recently parents have been informing staff that they have been applying gel to children's hands in the car. I am sure you can appreciate that we need to see the gel being applied; the cases of coronavirus have been increasing daily. We need to make sure that cross contamination is kept to a minimum.
- Please could all parents stick to the dropping off times in the morning (unless you have spoken to a member of management) as staff are unable to come to the gate inbetween times and we will kindly ask you to wait until the next staff member starts their shift. **Drop off times are the following: 7.30am, 8am, 8.30am, 9am and 9.30am**
- 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.