

February is now on us and the cold weather has really started to kick in. I've bought a few de-icers for the windows on my car but they don't seem to work as well as they use to so I'm back to scraping the windows! Any suggestions welcome!

Marie from the baby unit decided to leave the nursery over the Christmas period and not return in January. This was due to personal reasons and we are sorry to see her go. Jelly Baby parents have been informed about this so we just wanted to let parents from other areas know as Marie may have cared for your child in the baby unit. If you would like to bring in presents or cards we will make sure she receives them. No flowers though please as we cannot guarantee we will deliver them on the same day.

For children in receipt of the government grant please make sure you are responsible for checking your code is updated for each term. If you do not do this you will not be covered for the term ahead and a payment each week will be due.

**Our Topic at nursery for the Autumn Term is..... 'Our Environment'.
The book for this month is 'The Gruffalo and the Gruffalos Child'**

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 Heroes will be focusing on writing some of the letters from our names. This will consist of table top printing, writing letters in foam, paint, chalking tracing around name cards and lots more! It is also Chinese New year and we will be involved in making a lantern using chop sticks to eat our food looking at YouTube videos as well as lots more creative activities based around the same theme. We have valentine day coming up and we will be talking about who is special to us and making cards using potato prints for the heart aahh. Look out for the cupcakes we will be making as they will be coming home if they last that long! We are on our new book 'The Gruffalo' and will be making paw prints talking about where animals live and what they eat making animal masks and drawing faces in the soil.

Staff Training and Meetings

Staff training this month is:

Safeguarding and Startwell award

on

Thursday 28th February

The nursery will close at 5pm please make sure your child is picked up on time by 4.45pm

Makaton signs this month:
w/b 04.02.19 Good Morning
w/b 11.02.19 Thank You
w/b 18.02.19 Please

Smarties & Sweeties News

This month Smarties will be looking at shapes and colours and focusing on counting objects and looking at sizes such as big and small. We will be encouraging them to participate in more role play activities with their friends in small groups in order to build friendships. During water play activities we will be encouraging the children to explore what happens to the objects when they are in the water. They get wet; they are soggy. Using different words. As it is Chinese New Year we will be making lanterns using lots of different materials and textures for us to explore and make choices. We will also be making Valentine Cards. This month Sweeties will be involved in making lots of different crafts ready for Valentine's Day. We will be making our cards and making special biscuits as well as different valentines themed pictures. We will be working on our letter recognition and using our name tags to learn the first letter of our name.

Jelly Babies and Jelly Tots

This month in Jelly Bellies we will be working on another display board - bubble wrap printing, they will be painting the bubble wrap and printing the pattern onto paper.

We will be doing lots more group activities. We found out that the children communicated well with each other and liked being involved in activities and exploring together.

We will be doing lots of dancing and juggling around to music as we love to do this and are getting very good, along with playing musical instruments whilst listening to the music.

We will be encouraging simple sounds and words and helping the children to identify body parts, by pointing at them and singing songs. For instance 'Head Shoulders Knees and Toes', using actions to help them.

The book of the month is 'The Gruffalo'.

We will be practicing and learning animal sounds. We love playing with the tractor and farm animals. One of the toys has animal sounds when pressed which the children love. We will do lots of repetition to help the children to remember.

We will be making Valentines cards and making special valentines biscuits for the children to take home... if they get there!

This month Jelly Tots will be learning about basic colours and talking about the colours we see in the environment. We will be using the baby shark colour book to name red, yellow, blue and green.

The children will be painting and naming the colours we have been using.

As our book of the month is 'The Gruffalo' we will extend on this with our toy animals talking about what they look like as well as the sounds they make.

Rolos News

This month Rolos will be working on Valentines cards and making heart cookies. It is the Chinese New Year, the year of the pig and the children will be trying Chinese food and learning about the culture.

Unfortunately we have no Forest School visits for 7 weeks as they are having work carried out in the playground area of the school. The children were due to look at environment changes but this will have to wait.

The children will be learning Jolly Phonics to pronounce new letters.

They will be involved in number and letter formation as well as working on their tripod grip when holding a pencil. The book of the month is 'The Gruffalo'. By being involved with the story the children will hone their reading and concentration skills.

A busy month for Rolos and staff!

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Dates for your diary: From Monday 4th February until Thursday 28th February 2019

Story Sessions at the library: Heroes every Friday, Rolos every Monday
Nanny Shirley: Still poorly and unable to attend
Forest School: No Forest school until w/b Monday 25th March

Upcoming Events and Dates

• Notice for all parents

*Drop in SENCO Session

Rose is the nursery's setting-based SENCO and will be offering parents and staff a drop-in session on the last Thursday of the month 28th Feb 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 professional's and their services in the local community.

Notice for Parents

- When phoning the nursery please make sure you select a room option if calling about your child as parents are coming straight through to the office
- If you have any spare paper that you can donate to the nursery for the children to scribble on and practice their writing we would be very grateful
- Have you any toys/clothes/high chairs/pushchairs that you would like to donate to the setting that are no longer used. We want to raise money for an interactive whiteboard for Smarties and came up with the idea of selling second hand items to raise money towards this
- Parents are still letting others into the nursery on entry and exit. Please do not allow anyone to enter the premises, they must wait for a member of staff to acknowledge them
- Rolos staff have asked me to remind parents not to let your child wear lace ups for nursery
- During the hours of 7.30-9.30am Mon to Fri please use the main intercom buzzer at the gate as signposted

February Dates for your Diary

Friday 1 st Feb	Rolos trip to the library 10am
Monday 4 th Feb	Heroes trip to the library
Wednesday Feb 6 th	9.30am - 12 midday Stay and Play Swan Court under 3's
Friday Feb 8 th	Rolos Library 12.30pm - 2.30pm Swan Court Stay and Play under 3's
Monday Feb 11 th	9.30am - 12 midday Swan Court Stay and Play under 3's
Monday 11 th Feb	Heroes library
Wed 13 th Feb	9.30am - 12 midday Stay and Play as above
Friday 15 th Feb	Rolos Library 12.30pm - 2.00pm Stay and Play as above

Half Term

No Forest School until w/b 25th March due to maintenance work being carried out

CAN YOU HELP?

Are you a nurse, a postman a vet a firefighter a policeman a shop assistant etc. do you have some spare time to come into the nursery and tell our children about your role in the community?

If so please speak with Rose Sargent, Elaine Boulton/Sam Tranter Management



<http://startwellbirmingham.co.uk/>

Please refer to the above website as we have just commenced training for the start well award at the setting and there are lots of ideas for activities and healthy recipes for parents to try at home