



# Flitwick Day Nursery Newsletter

## November 2019

At Flitwick Day Nursery we are getting very excited about spending lots of time in the garden and exploring Autumn with your little ones. Our team have lots of new and exciting ideas to keep the children busy and focused throughout their time at nursery. Please can I remind you all to provide a pair of wellies and a change of clothes.



### Kitchen

Rachel has been creating a new menu and we aim for it to be up and running next week; the children have some new dishes to look forward too. The menus will be displayed in the rooms and in the reception area.

Please could we remind parents that if they would like to request a birthday cake for their child, Rachel requires **at least 1 weeks' notice**; this is due to the dietary requirements of other children in the nursery so that we can make sure there is cake for all!

The cost of a birthday cake is £5 and there is a choice of chocolate or vanilla sponge. 😊

## Cubs

In cubs we have lots of exciting activities planned! We hope to spend a lot of time exploring our senses with our new sensory toys, allowing our little ones to develop their gross motor skills further. We will be creating family photo boards, encouraging the babies to recognise familiar people. Please can we ask you to bring in photos of your family that you are happy to share so that we can create some special interactive displays for the children.

There will be lots of tactile play with a range of materials and textures such as cereal, rice, pasta and flour. Our babies love messy play!!



## Otters

We are continuing to ask parents for family photos so that we can carry on creating a family tree for all our children. The children are enjoying the garden, developing their physical abilities, walking and climbing! We plan to create garden sensory bottles using natural resources for the children to explore and listen to the sounds that they create.

Otters love to be involved in creative play so we will be creating lots of Autumn pictures, such as firework pictures using paint and straws. We will be developing our fine motor skills by using paint brushes and crayons to create beautiful pictures.

Our room theme in Otters follows natural and loose parts resources, which is called 'the curiosity approach'. This enables the children to explore resources using their imaginations rather than 'using toys for what they are'. The children have loved exploring all of our resources - building with foam wheels, rolling hoops and collecting items in the tins to transport and empty and fill. We are going to incorporate the children's interest of messy play and our natural resources to make some creative pictures. We will do this by pinecone rolling, hoop printing and block painting.



## Owls

We will be creating spooky Halloween pictures to take home to encourage the children to develop their fine and gross motor skills by using a variety of materials, such as paint, glue and pumpkins. We will also be encouraging the children to explore their senses in different ways, such as smell, taste and touch, by providing a variety of different fruits, herbs and spices in our tuff trays.

Over the next month some activities on our planning board include:

- Firework pictures
- Water with mini pumpkin boats
- Climbing and balancing in the garden to encourage gross motor skills

We are going to be continuing to improve our room by adding more lights to make a relaxing and homely environment to spend with our Otters. We will also be adding a 'touch and feel' wall for the children to explore. If you have any unique textured materials that you no longer use we would really appreciate them.



## Foxes

During this cold weather we have been taking part in lots of arts and crafts. In our room we are making hedgehogs using paint and glue. We are looking forward to messy play with the inside of pumpkins and making fireworks from powder paint in gloop. In our water play we will have the animals, dolls, pots and pans and spending time in the garden making marks with the water and chalks on the patio.

We will be marking Diwali, the festival of light, by making some lanterns to hang up in our room. Also, we are looking forward to some risky play making flower prints with flowers and hammers.



## Badgers

Lately Badgers have really enjoyed playing in the home corner using real fruit and vegetables. They will be carrying on this interest by adding different fruits and vegetables to their water play and having a variety of spices in their tuff trays. They will be encouraged to talk about the different smells and textures that they discover. The children are showing a lot of interest in dinosaurs at the moment, we have added them into the water tray and are making a dinosaur tuff spot which will include a variety of textures. We will also be dinosaur painting.

To encourage the children to express their feelings, we will be making a feelings board and discussing how we feel at circle times. We will also be looking at 'our golden rules' and making some pictures of the people that make us happy.



## Deer

During November we are going to be doing lots of fun activities based around Autumn. We are going to be changing our seasons board to Autumn and will be creating lots of themed pictures in a variety of different ways such as gluing, sticking, painting and cutting.

In the garden we will be spending a lot more time in the mud kitchen making lots of messy creations such as mud pies and magic soup. We will also be enjoying the sand pit and practicing our balancing on the balance bikes. We will be improving our fine motor skills by threading, mark making and using one handed implements, such as tweezers and scissors. To fit in with our Autumn theme we are going to be making slime for Halloween, where the children can measure out the ingredients and take turns with each other. We have spiderweb tuff trays and pumpkin carving at the ready as well as some seasonal baking.



## Dates for your diary:

**Halloween dress up day: 31<sup>st</sup> October** – wear your spookiest costume and get ready for some Halloween themed activities.

**Photo Day: 5<sup>th</sup> November** – Get your best smiles ready 😊 if your child is not due to be in on this day feel free to bring them in throughout the day to have their photo taken. You will need to stay whilst your child has their photo taken.

**Children in Need: 18<sup>th</sup> November** – Come to Nursery in your py jamas and donate a pound to children in Need!

**Parents evening: W/C 25<sup>th</sup> November**– lists will be up in the rooms 2 weeks before so you can book a slot to discuss your child's progress with their keyworker.

**Elf Day for Alzheimer's: 6<sup>th</sup> December** we are going to be dressing up as elves for the day to raise money for Alzheimer's. There will be a prize for the best elf!

**Christmas Dinner and Party: 18<sup>th</sup> December** – Rachel is going to be preparing a delicious Christmas dinner for all the children. We will be making party hats and having lots of fun with games and Christmas singing. We may even be lucky enough to have a special visitor too.

## What's New?

Over the last few weeks we have introduced some new staff to you across the nursery:

Kim has joined us from one of our other settings. She has worked for the company for 6 years. Kim will be covering Sam whilst she is off on maternity leave and room leading in Foxes room. She is level 3 qualified and paediatric first aid trained. Kim will be going on a SENCO course in December.

Jess has also joined us recently and she will be key working in Badgers room alongside Kayleigh and Natalia. Jess is Level 3 qualified and excited to start getting to know all the Badgers children and parents. They will also be joined in November by Annie who has previously worked for the company. Annie is Level 3 qualified and SENCO trained, she has also completed her paediatric first aid training.

## Reminders:

- Please could we ask that only books are brought in and not toys. We are happy for toys to come in and shown to friends, we don't allow children to play with them during the day in case they get lost or broken.
- If your child has developed a specific interest at home/over the weekend please let us know so that their key worker can extend their learning and development within the setting.

**That's it for now!**

Thank you for reading; we're excited for what the next month holds for learning, exploration and creativity. If you have any queries, please speak to a member of staff who will be able to help you 😊