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## Newsletter – Issue 1

### Welcome to our first newsletter!

The nursery has now been “Sunshine” for almost three months so we thought it was time to update you on what has been happening around the nursery and our plans going forward. We would also like to let you know what is planned for your child’s room this term.

#### Highlights

- We have invested in lots of new books and toys for the children which you should see around the rooms;
- We have recruited a new member of staff, Zoe, to increase the adult:child ratio around the nursery and to ensure that children are able to begin transitioning between rooms as soon as they are ready. Zoe will be with us full-time from June and part-time until then;
- We have replaced the old sleep mats and buggies;
- We have started cosmetic improvements around the nursery and this will continue into the summer;
- Spending on food has been increased by over 40% and we are currently working to improve menus. We firmly believe that better quality food will improve the overall health and well-being of the children;
- There have been more outings and these will continue as the weather begins to improve;
- Risk assessment procedures have been improved; and
- All staff have recently attended First Aid training and will attend a Safeguarding Children course later this month. Three members of staff also attended a Special Education Needs course;
- Parents Evening was held in March. If you took your child’s file home but have not yet returned it, please do so ASAP. If you were unable to attend, please speak to Sam King to arrange an appointment to discuss your child’s development at nursery.

#### Reminders

- Please ensure we have your up-to-date contact details and also emergency contact details;
- Please complete and return the questionnaire to us if you haven’t already done so. This is an opportunity for you to let us know what you would like to see change at the nursery, and we welcome your comments and suggestions; and
- Please let us know of any dates your child may be on holiday from nursery so that we can amend our records. Please also bring in any holiday photos you have so that your child can show them to their friends.

#### A BIG thank you...



We raised **£75** for Comic Relief by children and staff dressing up in fancy dress to nursery. Thank you to everyone who donated!

We raised **£22** for Crackerjacks Children’s charity by children and staff dressing up in their pyjamas to nursery.



#### Recent Visits

Zoolab came to visit the children to demonstrate how animals deal with winter and then what happens in springtime and in turn how each animal reproduces and prepares for the season ahead.

The children also had a visit from the dentist to explain the importance of looking after their teeth and also how to brush their teeth.

Coming soon....Monkey Music will be visiting the nursery on **7<sup>th</sup> May** for classes with each room!

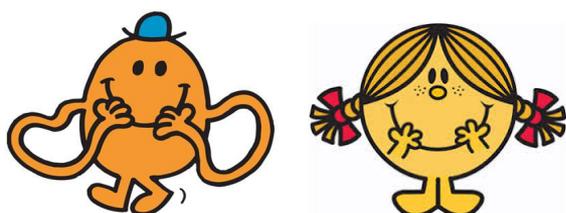
#### Home Language

We are keen to incorporate the children’s home language and culture into daily life at the nursery. This will enable the children to learn about each other’s cultures, learn additional languages as well as their own home language and English, and also provide some continuity between home and nursery. This will be led by Linda (pre-school), Becky (toddlers) and Maria (babies). We would like to do the following in each room:

- Have parents come in and sing songs or read books in their home language – *please let us know if you would be interested in doing this in your child’s room;*
- Include greetings in all home languages every morning (“Good morning”, “I am happy”, “I am sad” and “I am excited”) – *please let us know how to say these phrases in your home language;*
- Incorporate items representative of the children’s culture into the rooms – *please bring in anything that you feel would be suitable such as a toy/ornament/costume.*

### Baby Room

This term we will be working on our feelings and different emotions. We will be changing our Gruffalo book corner to a 'Mr Men' area with different books, puzzles and teddies. We will also be working closely with toddlers to ensure a smooth and easy transition for our older babies and encouraging younger babies to start to walk independently with support of our walkers and the staff. We are also planning trips to the library and the park now that the weather will be nicer.



### Toddler Room

Our new special book corner will be focusing on favourite nursery rhymes and rhyming books! This will be to support and encourage each child's language development. We are planning to take the toddlers on more outings this term, to libraries and various parks, We now also have a larger role play area to provide more opportunities for the children to explore their area of play. If you have any suggestions or ideas please talk to Becky or Dan-Dan.



### Website



We are pleased to announce that the Sunshine website is live and accessible:

[www.sunshinedaynurseries.co.uk](http://www.sunshinedaynurseries.co.uk)

We believe this is an important tool to maintain good communication with parents/carers and so will be continually updating and developing the site with more information in the coming months.

### Pre-School

Over the next term, we will be working on the following during small group time.

- Understanding emotions and dealing with them;
- Understanding the world – showing interest in families and the lives of others familiar to them;
- Preparing for school;
- Promoting phonic awareness; and
- Pencil control and forming letters of their names.

We will be using a series of dinosaur books in our book area:

"How do dinosaurs say good night?"  
"How do dinosaurs get well soon?"  
"How do dinosaurs eat their food?"



We will use these stories to promote the development areas covered under the EYFS.

Linda is our Special Education Needs (SEN) Officer and has a number of ideas and activities she is planning to incorporate during the term.

If you have any suggestions, please let a member of the pre school team know.

### Weekly Menu



Going forward from next month we will be emailing all parents/carers the weekly food menu to ensure you all have greater visibility of what the children are eating at the nursery and to help plan your meals at home.

This term, pre-school children will be learning the following Spring Time songs. Please feel free to sing along at home.

### Spring is Here

(sung to: *Are You Sleeping?*)

I see robins,  
I see birds' nests,  
Butterflies too,  
Flowers too.  
Everything is growing,  
The wind is gently blowing.  
Spring is here, spring is here.



### The Little Caterpillar

(sung to: *Itsy Bitsy Spider*)

The little caterpillar crawled up into a tree,  
Spun his cocoon and slept so quietly,  
All through the winter he didn't make a sound,  
He dreamt of his new life when he'd be flying all around.  
While he was sleeping he snow did gently fall,  
Winter came and went, then heard the robin's call,  
Come on Mr Butterfly, out of your cocoon,  
Spread your wings and fly for me, while I sing my tune.



### Spring Poem

Some days seem like winter,  
Some are nice and warm,  
Rainy days and windy days,  
Maybe it will storm.  
Warm or cold or wet or dry,  
What will the weather be?  
I think Spring is trying to play,  
Peek-a-boo with me.



### Some Rabbits

(sung to: *My Bonnie Lies Over the Ocean*)

Some rabbits have bright shiny noses.  
I'm telling you now as a friend.  
The reasons their noses are shiny  
Their powder puffs on the wrong end.  
Wrong end, wrong end, their powder  
puffs on the wrong end.



### The Days of Spring

(sung to: *Farmer in the Dell*)

The days of Spring are here,  
Warm, sunny days are near,  
Flowers and bees, and birds in trees,  
The days of spring are here.

### Springtime is Finally Here

(sung to: *The Farmer in the Dell*)

Springtime is finally here, oh springtime is finally here  
Flowers come this time of year  
Springtime is finally here.  
Springtime is finally here, oh springtime is finally here  
The bees are buzzing, can you hear,  
Springtime is finally here.