



Ballykeel Nursery Newsletter



November/December 2017

Designated Teacher for child protection - Mr J Fisher, Deputy designated teacher for child protection - Mrs J Thompson

www.ballykeelps.org.uk

Dear parents, we are delighted to have the children all settled into a sound nursery routine. Your patience and assistance during the vital settling in period was invaluable, thank you. Your attendance at the parent teacher meeting also demonstrates the commitment and interest you have in your child's early educational development. Please remember if you do have any worries, concerns or relevant information about your child, please speak to their teacher.

This is the second half of the first term and it is one of the most exciting and busiest times in Ballykeel Nursery Unit! This is a perfect time to start feeling festive and share in the children's excitement which surrounds the run up to Christmas. We have lots of events and activities taking place in nursery, we hope you're ready to get involved!



Happy Birthday to...

Cole! (Mrs Muller's class)



AND ... **Tommy, Leo and Lacey!** (Miss Lorimer's class)



Monthly themes



As well as other subjects which may emerge from the children's interests, we will plan to look at the following themes:

Over the next few weeks we will continue to talk about and investigate **signs of autumn**; colours observed in the outdoor environments, changes in weather, and items and objects which can be found at this time of year. The children will be using autumnal colours: brown, yellow, red and orange, in their creative activities and will be encouraged to bring in items and share their experiences to contribute to the learning and understanding of autumn. We will continue to talk about **preparing for winter** in autumn (both people and animals). We will be sharing a selection of stories about woodland and various animals with the children and will also talk and learn about **migration and hibernation**. We will look at the changes in the weather and the need to dress appropriately according to these changes (coat, hat, gloves, etc. as the weather gets colder and waterproofs for wet weather).

In November and December, we will be talking about **Christmas** and **the nativity**. We will continue to look at the change in the weather - you never know, we may even see some frost/snow! We will talk about the Christmas story and the meaning of Christmas. We will also be practising for our nursery nativity which we will look forward to performing for you all on Thursday 7th Dec! The children will be writing letters to Santa, creating pieces of festive art and craft and sharing their experiences with one-another. We have a busy time ahead with events and activities and we hope to see all of our school community taking part and having a good time. Our annual nursery Christmas Fair will take place on Friday 24th November in the school hall from 6.30pm-8.30pm. There will be a raffle at the fair which has LOTS of FANTASTIC prizes available to win!

Name it!!

Please ensure that all your child's belongings are clearly marked with their name or initials. Please also check their name is clear on the label after each wash as they do fade. Although we do try, nursery staff cannot take responsibility for misplaced uniforms etc.

For health and safety, please close the door completely when you leave the school building.

We will also like to remind carers that all children should be in school by **9.15am** and can be collected from **1.15pm-1.30pm**. (If you will be late in leaving your child to school or need to collect them before 1.15pm please speak to a member of the nursery team.).

Important Information;

- We try to get **outside every day** for a short time. If your child is not well enough to be outdoors, or is on a course of medication, then it is best that they remain at home as there are insufficient numbers of staff to supervise one or two children indoors during this time.
- The **Lending Library** starts on Friday 10th Nov. Each child will be encouraged to select a few books to bring home weekly to share with their parents/carer. This is a great opportunity for you to enhance your child's learning and development, potentially across all areas of the curriculum. It is also a great, and inexpensive way for your child to experience and explore a wide range of books and stories! Each child will bring a book bag home every Friday, with their library book in it, and we request that library books and bags are **returned every Tuesday**. 
- As well as the children's lending library we run an **Adult's Lending Library** in the foyer of the nursery. Please feel free to have a browse through the range of general interest, child development and self-help books in the book stand. Simply enter your name and the book in the blue note book provided and enjoy the range of materials available to you.
- Thank you to all parents who were able to attend the parent meetings in October, we hope you found this as valuable and informative as we did. A copy of your child's term one report will be sent home this month. Please remember the staff are here at any time to discuss any concerns or answer questions as best we can.
- Breakfast club is now open to all nursery children and we have many who are availing of this in the mornings.



Dates for your Diary



- **Friday 10th November** - Lending library starts.
- **Friday 17th November** - Open afternoon in Nursery Unit 1.30pm-3.00pm. Nursery children will leave early on this day. **Home time will be 12noon** on this day to facilitate preparation. Lunch will be served as normal in nursery. Thank you for your co-operation with this.
- **Friday 24th November** - Christmas Fair 6.30pm-8.30pm in the school assembly hall.
- **Thursday 7th December** - Nursery nativity, 9.30am in the school assembly hall.
- **Thursday 7th December** - Open morning for parents whose children are going into P.1 in Sept 2018. This will take place in the primary school, directly after the nursery nativity.
- **Thursday 14th December** - The nursery children will attend the carol service hosted by the primary school children during normal school hours (please note this is an additional performance held for the school children).
- **Wednesday 20th December** - **School finishes at 11.30am** for nursery children. (nursery school children can be collected from 11.15am. There will be no school dinners provided on this day).
- **Wednesday 3rd January** - Term two commences. Nursery children start back to school at 9am as usual.



Reduce, Reuse, Recycle!

Please make use of the green and red recycling banks in the nursery car park to deposit all old or unwanted clothes, curtains, bed linen, books & CDs etc. This helps raise money for school funds. Thank you!

Lets Help Eachother!

If you, or anyone you know (other parents or carers), have difficulty in reading English, or reading in general, please let them know that the nursery staff are happy to meet and talk through the newsletter so they have an understanding of what is going on in their child's life at nursery. If you have a good relationship with them or are keen to help you could also support them and go through the information on the newsletters or notice boards. Let's show the children that it's good to help others!



If you would like to get involved in the preparations for the Christmas fair; collecting items for the raffle, sourcing prizes for the children for the stalls, making cakes, etc. or any other part of nursery life, then please get in touch with a member of staff. We always welcome a pair of helping hands!



SONGS & RHYMES

Below is a selection of some of our rhymes & songs, associated with our themes. Join in and sing with you child at home!

One Little Hedgehog

One little hedgehog hiding in
the leaves
Snuffle snuffle, sniff sniff
Tickle, wriggle, sneeze.

Autumn Leaves

Orange Leaves are falling down,
Spinning, spinning all around
Floating by without a sound
So catch them if you can.

Yellow leaves are falling down.....
So catch them if you can.

Golden leaves are falling down.....
So catch them if you can.

Red leaves are falling down.....
So catch them if you can.

Autumn leaves are falling down.....
So catch them if you can.

The Owl

Something is sitting up in a tree,
With two big eyes staring at me.
Something is sitting up in a tree,
It's the owl!

Tu-whit, tu-whoo,
I'm watching you,
Tu-whit, tu-whoo,
I'm watching you,
Tu-whit, tu-whoo.

Wise old owl in the tree,
Looking around for his tea.
Wise old owl in the tree,
It's the owl.

Tu-whit, tu-whoo,

Something is sitting up in a tree,
With two big eyes staring at me.
Something is sitting up in a tree,
It's the owl!
Tu-whit, tu-whoo,

Goldilocks

When Goldilocks went to the house of the bears
Oh what did her blue eyes see?

A chair that was HUGE
A chair that was small
And a chair that was tiny
And that was all

She counted them 1, 2, 3.

When Goldilocks went to the house of the bears
Oh what did her blue eyes see?

A bowl that was HUGE
A bowl that was small
And a bowl that was tiny
And that was all

She counted them 1, 2, 3.

When Goldilocks went to the house of the bears
Oh what did her blue eyes see?

A bed that was HUGE
A bed that was small
And a bed that was tiny
And that was all

She counted them 1, 2, 3.

When Goldilocks went to the house of the bears
Oh what did her blue eyes see?

A bear that was HUGE
A bear that was small
And a bear that was tiny
And that was all

They growled at her Grr Grr Grr.

Five Little Leaves

Five little leaves so bright and gay (Hold up five fingers)

Were dancing about on a tree one day. (Wiggle fingers on one hand)

The wind came blowing through the town. (Cup hand around mouth, make wind noises)

Ooooooooo.....Oooooooooooooo.....

One little leaf came tumbling down. (Bend down one finger)

Four little leaves so bright and.....etc

Three little leaves so bright and.....etc.

Santa's Toys

Tune Old MacDonald

Santa had a sack full of toys
Oh! What a lot!

And in that sack he had some bears
Oh! What a lot!

With a big bear here, and a small bear there

Here a bear, there a bear
Everywhere a cuddly bear

Santa had a sack full of toys
Oh! What a lot!

(Add other verses such as cars/ fast cars/ slow cars etc., have fun, be creative!)

Here comes the Postman
down our street
I can hear the noise
of his big feet
I can hear the click
of the garden gate
He's got some letters
I just can't wait!!

Christmas pudding

Christmas pudding, Christmas pudding
steaming hot, steaming hot,
Sprinkle on the sugar, sprinkle on the
sugar,
Eat the lot, eat the lot.

Five Little Snowmen

5 little snowmen fat
Each had a funny hat
The sun came out and melted 1
Oh how sad was that!
4.3.2.1 etc

Away in a Manger

Away in a manger,
No crib for a bed,
The little lord Jesus,
Lay down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky,
Look down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus,
Asleep on the hay.

Merry Christmas!

From all the staff at Ballykeel Nursery Unit