



Ballykeel Nursery Newsletter



January / February

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

Now that term two is underway, the children have settled back into nursery life and we've wished you all a very happy new year, we look forward to yet more enjoyable and educational experiences for you and your child. We would like to thank you all sincerely for your support during our Christmas Fair fund raising event. The money raised will be used solely for the benefit of the children of the Nursery and to purchase equipment and maintain a high quality of educational standards.

Term two nursery fund is £2 per week, or £26 for the term if paying everything at the start of the term (term two runs up until the Easter holidays). We ask that you pay this as soon as possible to avoid outstanding fund. If you would like to pay for the remainder of the year the amount is now £52.



Happy belated birthday to Emelia!! And a very Happy Birthday to...
Brodie, Emily, Jaxson, Sophia L-C, Eva and Carter! (Mrs Muller's class)
AND ... Jamie, Lucas, Jensen and Sophia A! (Miss Lorimer's class)



Name it!!

Please ensure that all your child's belongings are clearly marked with their name or initials; jumper's, coats, hats, etc. Please also check names after each wash as they do fade. Nursery staff cannot take responsibility for misplaced uniforms etc. but we do try our best to ensure they are placed in the child's box or on their peg for home time.



Celebrate Creativity



Please remember to collect your child's paintings, drawings and creations and celebrate their creativity by praising them for their efforts and displaying them at home. Your child has worked hard on these creations and they know what they are and may enjoy telling you all about them!

Parents' Notice board! Please read information shared regularly on the white board outside the classrooms. If a childminder, friend or other carer is collecting your child please ensure you inform them about the notice board as well so that they can pass important information on to you.

Ballykeel Community News Notice Board "Your Space" Is located in the nursery hallway and is a facility for parents to advertise items they may wish to sell or purchase. You can also use this to advertise if you are available to childmind, garden or share travel arrangements, etc. it's "Your Space!"

Don't forget to keep an eye on the new school website to keep up to date with recent nursery events and photographs during term two. The nursery newsletter, dinner menu and school inspection report is posted on the website too. www.ballykeeps.org.uk

During the month of January our focus of interest is 'Winter' & 'Arctic animals', and in February, 'people who help us'. We will also talk about Chinese New Year and Valentines day. We will discuss how to keep safe and warm in winter, feeding the birds, people in the community who help us, cultural differences around the world, and we will support the children's recognition of colours, patterns and shapes. Please work with us in supporting your child's learning by encouraging them to match colours, shapes and count, e.g. their birthday candles, their toes, etc. Our numeracy focus in pre-school includes counting to 10, and above if the child is able, and to recognise some numbers. We will also be encouraging the children to count objects, focusing on 1-5 this term, and above if the child is able.

Lending library has started and the feedback has been very positive! The children are very excited to select their new books to share with you at home. Please make sure that you return the book bag and all of the contents on Tuesday each week to facilitate the smooth running of the library. A note will be sent home to those who have outstanding books which need to be returned. If your child's books are not brought back we will be unable to provide you with any further books until they are returned.

Dates for your Diary

- **Breakfast Club** from 8am - 8.45 am. Children must be in the breakfast club between 8.15am and 8.30 am to ensure the children have sufficient time to enjoy a relaxed breakfast.
- **Week of 5th Feb** **Parent Meetings** - more information to follow (check parents information board)
Nursery finishes early - home time 12.45-1pm all week (**5th-9th Feb**).
- **Mon 12th-16th Feb** Mid-term break - **school closed**.
- **Monday 19th Feb** School reopens.
- **Easter holidays** Monday 26th March - Friday 6th April.

Self Help Skills

The children are settling into a good lunch time routine and becoming quite independent with other Nursery processes. We would ask that together we support your child's developing self-help skills. Encourage them to put on and take off their own coat, use their knife and fork, set the table or tidy away their toys after play times, help to dress themselves, be more independent in their own toileting needs, etc. at home as well as at nursery. Often parents are pleasantly surprised at just how much their young child can do!

You can help - Please close the outside door!!

The children are encouraged to be independent in nursery and this includes access to their boxes in the hall and putting their coats on their pegs. The children's safety is our primary concern and the danger of leaving the nursery door open is that anyone can walk in, unpermitted by staff and a child could walk out. Please ensure that you close the door tight when you enter and exit the nursery. Thank you.

We welcome any old birthday or Christmas cards which you have received, we can use the front of the cards to practice cutting skills and to use in our craft activities, pull the back of the card off if you do not wish personal information to be shared. We are also asking for any chocolate boxes (we would like to make chocolate play dough around valentines day and the boxes would provide a fun filled activity at the playdough table!). Thank you.

Once again we would like to remind everyone that we welcome our parents and carers into the nursery to join in with the fun! The nursery doors open at 1.15pm everyday and you are able to join your child for table top time, up to 1.30pm. We also welcome any volunteers to help out in the nursery - whether it be with our lending library, craft activities, baking sessions or any other ideas which you may have, just speak to your class teacher!

The songs and rhymes for our topics are on a separate page. We hope you enjoy listen to them and singing with your children!

Thank you!

Once again we would like to thank everyone who contributed and helped with the nursery fair. In particular, our parents and the local businesses. You all helped us to raise an amazing £1,322.25! Thank you for your support.

Are you getting your text messages?

Please make sure we have your most up-to-date details including mobile number. This will help us to keep you updated on any relevant information and events.

Songs and Rhymes



Ni Hao (nee how)

Let's wave and say "Ni hao"
Let's wave and say "Ni hao"
Let's say "hello" to all our
friends,
Let's wave and say "Ni hao"

Take the Snake

Jake the snake can slither,
Jake the snake can slide.
But if Jake the snake saw you or me,
Jake the snake would hide.

I'm a Little Penguin (tune of I'm a
little teapot)

I'm a little penguin in the snow,
I slide on my tummy to and fro.
I eat the fish from the deep blue
sea,
I'm black and white so look at me!

Roses are Red

Roses are red,
Violets are blue,
Sugar is sweet and so are
you!

Chinese New Year Dragon

There's a brightly coloured dragon,
swaying down the street,
Stomping and kicking up its feet.

There's a multi- coloured dragon,
-green and gold and red-
Twisting and twirling and shaking its head.

The gruffalo

He has terrible tusks and terrible claws
and terrible teeth in his terrible jaws.
He's the gruffalo, gruffalo, gruffalo.
He's the gruffalo.

He has knobbly knees and turned-out toes
And a poisonous wart at the end of his nose.
He's the gruffalo, gruffalo, gruffalo.
He's the gruffalo.

His eyes are orange. His tongue is black.
He has purple prickles all over his back.
He's the gruffalo, gruffalo, gruffalo.
He's the gruffalo, gruffalo, gruffalo.
He's the grr..rr..rr..rr..ruffalo.
HE'S THE GRUFFALO!

Where did the pancake go?

Mix some flour and eggs and milk,
And cook them in a pan.
Toss your pancake in the air,
Then catch it if you can.

*Chorus: Oh, where did the pancake go?
Where did the pancake go?
Where did it go, Nobody knows,
Oh, where did the pancake go?*

Get more flour and eggs and milk,
And cook thm in a pan.
Toss your pancake in the air,
then catch it if you can.

Chorus

Blow your nose

When your nose is
feeling runny,
Please don't sniff.
Though you think it's
very funny,
Please don't sniff.
Take a tissue, hold
it flat,
Place it on your nose
like that,
Blow a little, wipe it
well,
Blow, blow, blow!

Repeat...

I can do it for myself

When i wake up i get out of bed,
I find myself some clothes to wear.
I brush my teeth and wash my face,
And i can even comb my hair.

*Chorus: I don't need anyone to do it for me,
I can do it for myself.
I don't need anyone to do it for me,
I can do it for myself.*

When i go out i put on my shoes,
I use the loo before we're gone,
And when i get into the car,
I can put my seatbelt on.

Chorus...

When I come home I hang up my coat,
I find myself a game to play.
I wash my hands before my tea,
And I can put my toys away.

Chorus x2

Here we go round the Mulberry Bush

Here we go round the Mulberry Bush,
The Mulberry Bush, the Mulberry Bush,
Here we go round the Mulberry Bush,
On a cold and frosty morning.

This is the way we put on our gloves,
Put on our scarves, put on our boots.
This is the way we put on our clothes,
On a cold and frosty morning.

Dance with your Fingers

Dance with your fingers, dance with your toes,
Dance with your elbows, anything goes.
Sway to the left and sway to the right.
If you really want, you can dance all night!

Repeat 3 times...

