

Brookdale Newsletter December 2024

| **Main Room**  The children have been very busy in the main room. They have been learning all about autumn and lots of them brought in full bags from their autumn walks at home - we discussed these at group times and then had fun creating a huge autumn picture together using all the natural materials they collected. The children have enjoyed learning about Diwali - the Hindu festival of light and exploring how Hindu’s celebrate - we even made our own Diya lamps to take home. We have also been working hard at group times discussing the days of the week, what the weather is doing etc. Now that the pegs are semi permanent, we have introduced a ‘self registration’ in the main room, this means the children still have the opportunity to find their name and open up discussions around letters and sounds.We have also spent time this week looking at Bonfire night, Guy Fawkes and the gunpowder plot - we looked at the houses of parliament and discussed the shapes we could see and had a go at building our own with |
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| **2’s Room** The children in the 2’s have been working hard on listening skills and following instructions. We have done lots of listening games and taking turns to encourage cooperative play. The children have enjoyed lots of crafts and sensory experiences, including making potions. We have been working hard on developing strength on our hands and fingers using different tools such as scoops, spoons and tweezers - this kind of play is really important to prepare little hands for writing and drawing. We have enjoyed lots of dancing and a firm favourite has been the ‘dinosaur stomp’.  |
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| **Middlies Room** The Middlies room are continuing their work on routines and ensuring they are embedded. They have been working really hard on independence , including walking into the room on their own, climbing the stairs, feeding themselves and finding their own belongings. There is lots of singing and rhymes going on all the time and we have been encouraging lots of chatter.  |
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| **Quiet Room** The children in the quiet room have also been continuing to work hard on routines and independence such as feeding themselves and self soothing on mat at sleep time. The children have also enjoyed lots of sensory play with all sorts of materials - scooping and pouring, pushing and pulling.  |
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***November’s Storytime***

**Alongside our ‘in the moment planning’ we have introduced a theme for Seasons/Festivals/celebrations - this will run alongside a book/story based on each theme - as this half term is so busy with lots of different festivals, we are jumping through a few different stories including the story of Rama and Sita, Funny bones and the story of Guy Fawkes and the gunpowder plot.**

***Wellcomm Screening***

*As Language Lead, Michelle has wellcomm screened all of downstairs children last half term and is in the process of grouping children for small group work based on any targets that may have been set by the wellcomm wizard but we’re having a few hiccups with the system. If you would like to discuss the outcomes for your children, you are very welcome to talk to either Michelle or Lianne at any time.*

| Reminders * Please remember, when dropping off and picking up to drive slowly and carefully down the driveway.
* Please ensure your child has at least one change of clothes in their bag each day - we are very low on nursery spares!
* Please make sure that children are not bringing belongings/lunch in plastic bags - we are unable to allow these on the children's pegs due to the risk of suffocation and will remove them.
* All children should have a pair of shoes as well as wellies when they attend nursery… often children find it difficult to play inside in wellies and take them off - we encourage the children to have their **shoes** on inside incase we have to evacuate for any reason.
* Breakfast - after discussions with parents and as a staff team team - we have decided that, rather than have 30/40 different boxes of cereal, nursery will provide breakfast for children should they wish to eat when they arrive - we will be offering a choice of three healthy breakfast cereals each morning 7.30-8.30.
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**And Finally….** We have now appointed a new management team! Michelle and Tanya have both been appointed as Deputy Managers and will work closely together. I am sure you will join me in congratulating them both and thank them for their hard work. I (Lianne) have taken up the position as Manager and I am looking forward to working with Michelle and Tanya to continue providing the best possible start in education for your little ones. Thank you to you all for your patience and understanding as we have navigated the hurdles of the last few weeks! As always, our door is always open should you wish to discuss anything.

Best Wishes

Lianne and the Rest of the Team at Brookdale