



Ark Ayrton Nursery

February 2020
Newsletter

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Dear Parents/Carers

Overview of the month.

Wow – what a brilliant start to the New Year, January seemed to last forever and February is flying by – we hope you have all had a good start to 2020.

The pre-school children have been out on an amazing trip to the Dockyard, the children caught a train and a bus and saw some very large boats – as well as the Spinnaker Tower! Thank you to all our parent helpers, without you trips would not be possible.

Communication

Please bring wet weather gear including welly boots for you child so they can explore the garden.

Reminder – please help us keep the children safe by ensuring you close the gates behind you and do not let anyone into nursery if you do not know– Thank you.

Absences – just a reminder – please call then nursery if your child will not be at nursery, there is an answer phone so please leave us a message if you don't manage to get through – nursery number: 02392 829899, thank you.

Up and coming dates for your diary.

World Book Day – We will be celebrating books all week across the nursery ending with a fancy dress day (as your favourite character) on Friday 5th March.

Red Nose day – 13th March – wear red and red noses – donations to be given to the rooms/office.

Facebook

If you haven't already please like and share our Facebook page Ark Ayrton Nursery!! We currently have 86 likes – help us to get to 100!

Term dates

Reminder: we are closed on Friday 14th February for or staff training Inset day

Half term – 17th February - 24th February, funding starts again on the 24th February.

Easter Holidays: 6th April – 17th April – the nursery will be closed between the 10th April and 17th April, reopening our doors on the 20th April.

Consumable charge

This is a rolling offer costing £6 per half term, this can be paid to the nursery office at the beginning of each half term. If you do not wish to be part of the scheme please provide your child with a daily piece of fruit, own nappies and wipes, sun cream, etc. We thank you for your support in this matter.

Update detail forms

We will shortly be sending out forms to keep our records updated, please return these by the 13th March so we can update of records accordingly.



Changes to the pre-school

With school fast approaching we are committed to giving the children who attend our nursery the best possible start. This means that there is going to be a shuffle of rooms starting after the February half term.

If your child goes to school this year (birthday dates 1/09/2015-31/8/2016) they will be based in the Start Point room – and if your child is due to start school next year (birth dates between 1/09/2016-31/08/2017) they will be based in Hartland Point. You will receive information on your child key person in the next few days. Please speak to a member of the pre-school room or management if you require any more information about this change.



Uniform and Jewellery for preschool

A reminder please about uniform expectations – all children are expected to follow the school uniform policy.

- ALL school shoes must be flat, black and NOT trainers. No sandals or boots should be worn.
- Grey trousers/shirts or dresses
- Grey, white or red tights/socks can be worn
- Red school jumper/cardigan

All children need a complete PE kit of shorts (preferably black), white t-shirt, a change of footwear.

The only jewellery that is allowed are small, gold stud earrings and a small watch. Any child wearing different earrings or any other jewellery will be required to remove it and it will be returned to a parent/carer at the end of the day.

Uniform is only worn during the term time, in the holidays children can wear own clothes.

Messages from the rooms....



Turtles: What a busy few weeks we have had in the Turtle room! We have been getting to know our new babies and their parents, we have moved our room around to create more zoned areas and safe places for the babies to move around and explore in.

The past few weeks we have been focusing our planning on our senses.

We have explored:

- Sight – Sensory room/Dark den
- Smell – Toothpaste play/ Scented sensory bottles
- Taste - New tastes/Textures
- Hearing – Musical instruments/Outdoor sounds
- Touch – Gloop/Mashed potato play/Treasure baskets

We will be having a Stay and Play event as the weather warms up, Details to follow.

Starfish



The Starfish room have thoroughly enjoyed their current interest of The Very Hungry Caterpillar. They have loved experience a new variety of foods at snack, cooking a wide variety of foods and using different skills to make caterpillars.

Moving into the next half term some of your children will be moving up to Jellyfish room and some of the children will be receiving new key workers, you would have been notified of these changes either by letter or tapestry.

Jellyfish



Happy new year to you all! Over the past month we have been very busy in the Jellyfish room enjoying lots of the following things-

Fairy tales where we grew our very own green beans whilst focusing on Jack and the beanstalk!

Nature week where we made bird feeders and watched the birds come down in our garden to eat them.

Story telling week where we focused on 3 particular stories 'Shark in the Park' the children's favourite at the moment, where we enjoyed making telescopes to see what we could see! 'We're going on a Bear Hunt', where we acted out the story in the school hall using props made to support this and experienced the different scenes during tactile play. 'Whatever next' where we made fruit rocket skewers and went and had a picnic on the moon!

Upcoming things we will be enjoying in the Jellyfish room over the next few weeks...

Valentine's Day

Love your Pet Day

Pancake Day

World Book Day where we will be holding a Stay and Play for parents and carers to come in and join in with the fun activities provided for you and your child. Please look out for posters on the cabin door and letters with the dates and other information.

Hartland Point and Start Point (pre-school)



Both pre-school classes had a fantastic time last week on our 'Out and About' trip to the Historic Dockyard. We took the train from Fratton station down to Portsmouth Harbour, then walked to the Dockyard. We looked at boats and ships: big and small, old and new. Then we got the bus back to school. All the children were so sensible while we were out and they had a lovely time. Thank you to all the parents and carers who came along on these trips. This half-term we have also enjoyed making junk vehicles, doing traffic surveys and pretending to go on magic train rides!

Next half-term we are looking forward to our new topic "Ready, Set, Grow!" where we will be learning all about how plants and animals grow and how we change as we grow up."

Nursery wish list

We are wanting to get our non-mobile children out and about to explore the surrounding areas – we are looking for a double buggy to be able to do this. If anyone has one that they would be willing to donate we would be very grateful!

Advertising

We are about to start an advertising campaign to promote the Nursery, if you can display any posters in a work place staff room or public notice board please come and get a poster from the office.

May I take this opportunity to thank you for your support and we all look forward to working with you to build on all our successes in the future.

Julie Ayrton

Nursery Manager