

Aspire Day Nursery Newsletter

Date - November 2016

Manager - Christine Moxon

Deputy Managers - Beth Watson and Hayley Hooper



November 2016

Welcome to our first newsletter. I hope you find it useful and enjoy reading it.

Up and coming events



Christmas Show and Party

Date: Friday 16th December

Time: 5.30pm to 7pm

Special guest: Father Christmas

Theme: Christmas outfit/jumper/traditional dress



We will be starting our children and parents' Christmas disco with a mini show of Christmas songs that the children are busy learning in different languages. After the show there will be a DJ to enjoy with a few drinks for the mummies and daddies. If you can come along we would love to see you there.

Explorers News

Our Explorers are going to be learning about autumn by doing sensory and creative activities with autumn objects and natural resources.

Our language of the month is German, so our morning song will introduce "Guten morgen" to the children.

Discoverers News

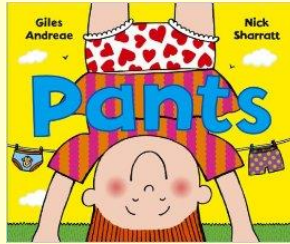
In Discoverers we are going to be exploring role play to develop our imagination using props. We are also going to be exploring the idea of 'kind hands' and being kind to others by doing activities that involve activities doing turn taking.

Creators News

In Creators our theme for November is the well-known 'Hungry Caterpillar' story which will introduce the idea of healthy eating and the importance of a balanced diet. It will also begin to help the children with their understanding of counting and will widen their vocabulary.

Adventurers News

The Adventurers are exploring a story called 'Pants'. This story was chosen by the children at the library. It will introduce awareness of what the children will wear when they are no longer in nappies. From this, the children are also learning counting skills and vocabulary.



Inventors News

In Inventors our topic for the month is transport. This will benefit the children's understanding of the world. The story that we are focusing on in November is 'Whatever Next?' which links to our mathematical challenge which is to be able to count up and down aided by rocket prompts. We will also be learning about Autumn animals.

Staffing

Towards the end of the month we will be saying goodbye to Ntina in Inventors. Ntina is moving area to start her new life with her partner. We wish her all the best with this.

We are currently looking for a new team member to join the team. We did think about looking for another teacher, but as we still have our teacher/room leader Anna, we will focus on looking for the right member of staff. This may be another teacher, but equally may not.

We also want to congratulate Sarah in Creators on her pregnancy. Sarah will going on maternity around March/April time.

Website updates

I am starting to update the website as it was all designed before we began Aspire. So some information is out of date. I wanted to ask parents if there was anything you would like to see on the website, no promises but I will always take any ideas seriously. Please email me.

2 year old progress check

When your child turns 2 years old, they are invited to meet with a health visitor to check on the progress they are making. At the nursery we also complete a check, and we will do a report for you to take along to this meeting.

You will be sent a questionnaire to complete by your health visiting team, if you would like to bring this into nursery we would be happy to complete this alongside you, I know there are certain things on the check that you may not be able to do at home, therefore we can help with this at nursery.

To book in for this, please see management when you receive the questionnaire, this check is normally done when they are around 27months.



Security

Thank you to all the parents who helped us with thinking of ways to enhance the current security. We have had many ideas, all good but with their flaws. At the end of the day there is always room for human error, so nothing will be perfect. One idea we want to try to start with is a password system. From the majority of the emails I received, there was a joint census of shutting the door on people made them feel uncomfortable at times. Therefore we want to introduce a password system where if you greet a parents at the door when entering or exiting, instead of closing the door you ask 'what's the password?' the answer will be the last two numbers in the gate code. I will not be writing them on the newsletter for security. We will see how this plays out and take it from there.

Speech and Language

Lately we have had a few queries regarding speech and language development. I have attached a useful leaflet that informs you of key stages in phonic development onto the email. This means the rough ages that children will be able to pronounce specific sounds and blends.

Phonics is about the understanding of sounds and how they work. The Government created a document which helps us to teach phonics called Letters and Sounds. This document is broken up into phases. Nurseries will usually only use phase 1 phonics which teaches children basic listening skills about sounds in the environment. Some reception classes will introduce phase 2. This phonic learning is preparing children for the phonic screening which happens in year 1. In this test children are asked to listen to a mix of words both real and fake and then to write the word that the sounds create. All the words can be spelt phonetically which shows that the children have an understanding of how the sounds they hear relate to a word. At Aspire we generally use phase 1 although if we feel that children are ready and able, we will also introduce phase 2. Our older children in Inventors are starting to use phase 2 in their phonics sessions.

Often children will pronounce sounds and words incorrectly as they learn to speak. This is normal and should not be a cause for concern. As long as you can understand roughly what the child is saying it is not a problem. The correct pronunciation will come later. Babies will babble and attempt to imitate language and sounds. It is only concerning to us if they are not making any attempt to create sounds at all.. This is why it is so important for children to be eating solid food between 9 and 12 months old as chewing strengthens oral muscles that are crucial in speech development. Please always feel free to talk to the staff about any concerns you may have and refer to the leaflet.

Below are some activities for different ages that will benefit language development.

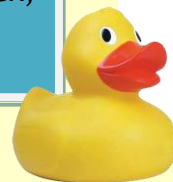
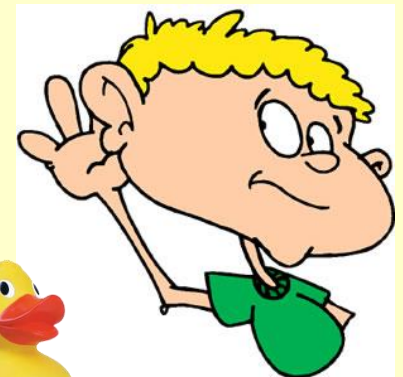
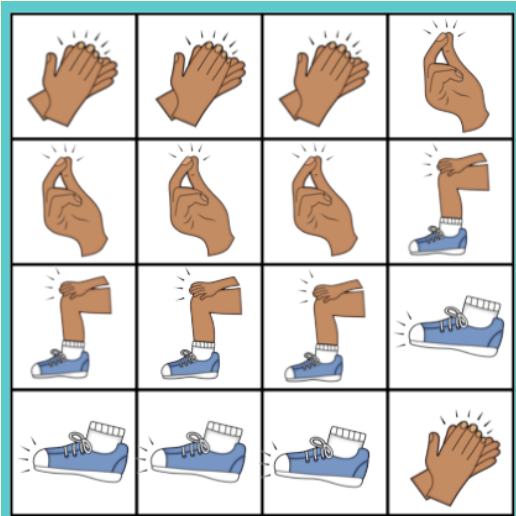
Under 2s: Simple vocal exercises and silly sounds - blowing raspberries, using your index finger to wobble the lips while making sounds, smacking your lips together to make a pop sound etc.



2-3 years: Listening walks - to listen for different sounds in the environment and identify them eg car, aeroplane, birds etc.



3-5 years: Body percussion patterns, imitating and creating - clapping, stamping, clicking etc. When starting this create simpler patterns for your younger child and make them more complex as they develop. For example going from clap, stamp, click to clap, clap, stamp, click, stamp.



Aspire....

Be **A**ctive

Feel **S**afe and Secure

Learn through **P**lay

Be **I**nspired to achieve

Build **R**elationships and Respect one another

Feel **E**mpowered to make their own decisions

Reminders

Fees

Fees are due on the 25th of each month for the following month.

Sickness

If your child has had pain relief medication within 8 hours of nursery it is our policy that they do not come into nursery that day.

Collecting you child

When collecting your children from nursery please ensure you are here by 6.10pm if you would like to receive a detailed handover, after this time, basic information will be given. Please bear in mind we close at 6.30pm and this is when staff shifts end, they are keen to go home after a long day.

Push chairs

I would like to say thank you for the feedback about pushchair. I have had many emails of support for this, it is vital that we can all work together in making all our lives much easier.

Just a reminder that from January 2017, we ask that parents using pushchairs use stroller type ones. This is because when collapsed they are not as wide as many other makes, which means we can put more in the buggy shed. Please can you all make sure that pushchairs are also collapsed daily from now onwards.

