



Newsletter

24/01/2020

This week the children have been consolidating their knowledge and understanding of their Story-Making texts using play based activities, props, actions and role-play. We have sent home the stories – ‘Monkey Puzzle’ for Squirrels, and ‘We’re Going on a Bear Hunt’ for Penguins – so that you can share these at home. In free play the children have been very interested in den-making and extending their role-play into small, communication friendly spaces. We built a large den with them in the outdoor area using a tarpaulin. In both rooms the children are really getting to grips with numbers and shapes, using these in practical ways to support our routines such as counting plates and cups at snack-time, or using shapes to help us with registration. In Penguins some of the children have been making up a narrative linked to their imaginative play – please check out our Facebook page for some pictures and examples of these stories.

Don’t forget to have a look at our website and diary for more pictures and information!

‘All About Me’ poetry competition

We are entering a poetry competition with our children in the Penguins Room! The children have been working with Rachel this week to create a poem all about themselves using a template. The winning nursery receives a prize of £1000, with a runner-up prize of a ‘book bundle’, and every nursery taking part receives a complimentary copy of the book published with a selection of the poems in! All children taking part also receive some small gifts.

Rags2Riches

We are now excepting the filled bag donations ready for collection on Wednesday 29th January, so please bring them in any time from now until Tuesday 28th January. Items that can be put into the bags are: *adults, children’s and baby’s clothing; paired shoes and footwear; jewellery and accessories; belts and handbags.* **All items must be good quality and in clean, dry and reusable condition.**

Book bags

If your child is new to the setting or you haven’t yet had one, book bags are available from the office for £2. We use them to put any letters in for your child to bring home to you, also they can choose a book from the box in the room to bring home and share with you and then change each time they come in.

National Dental Survey – consent form reminder

If your child was eligible to take part they would have brought a letter home, please can you sign and return the consent form if you would like them to take part ASAP. This will be taking place on Wednesday 5th February so we need the consent forms by next week.

Snack donations

Thank you to those of you who have sent in snack donations this week for the children to share, we really appreciate your support and hope that more of you can help us with this.

As you all know we are a charity run playgroup and we heavily rely on donations and fundraising to keep us running day to day. We would be very grateful for any donations of fruit to share at snack-times.

A donation for example could be a few bananas, oranges, apples, grapes, cucumber; we would really appreciate any help towards the food we already purchase for the children's snacks.

Committee members still needed!

As a charity run setting we have a management committee made up of parent and other volunteers who support us with the operational management of the playgroup. **We cannot run without volunteer committee members and desperately need more to join us!** We are asking, in particular the Squirrels parents, if anyone would be interested in joining our committee. This involves very little of your time - mainly to attend committee meetings which happen on average about 6 times a year.

If you would like more information about joining our committee, please either email us or pop into the office for more information. We would really appreciate as much support as possible with this vital role.

Tesco 'Bags of Help' Scheme

Thank you to everyone that has been putting tokens in for us so far, they are filling up slowly! If you are shopping in Tesco in Coleford or Lydney please support us by putting your token in the 'Coalway Early Years' slot! We are hoping to be awarded funding through this scheme to buy outdoor play equipment and to help us further develop our gardening area.

Spare clothes/lunch-bags

Please, please ensure that ALL of your children's belongings – lunch-bags, clothing, wellies, spare clothes, coats, hats etc – are clearly labelled with your child's name to avoid items going missing.

Dates for the diary

- Rags2Riches collection – Wednesday 29th January 2020
- Dentist Visit – Wednesday 5th February 2020
- Committee Meeting – Thursday 13th February 2020
- Last day of term 3 – Friday 14th February 2020
- First day of term 4 – Monday 24th February 2020
- World Book Day – Thursday 5th March 2020