

Glendermott Nursery Unit Newsletter

November 2017

Dear Parents

It's back to work in the nursery again and we have a very busy few months ahead as we look forward to the festive season. Santa's bird has already arrived in the nursery and will bring Santa all the good news about the well behaved and hardworking boys and girls in the nursery.

I hope your child's Early Days report helped to highlight your child's current strengths and areas for development. We are working at full speed every minute of every day. This month we plan to go out on an Autumn walk down to the Beechill to see and collect signs of Autumn. During the year we will have a few trips out if you think you will be available to help out please write your name on the sheet displayed on the Nursery noticeboard.

Learning in the Nursery

This month our topic is 'Space'. This topic will provide many opportunities for learning. Some of these are listed below. The children will be:

- travelling with Buzz Lightyear 'To infinity and beyond...'
- finding out about the sun, the moon and the stars
- designing and creating rockets/control panels
- counting the points on a star and buttons on control panels
- floating and dancing in space to music
- dressing up as astronauts and travelling to the moon
- moon walking/having picnics on the moon
- collecting silver objects
- exploring magnetic objects
- listening to stories about adventures in space
- singing songs and rhymes related to the topic

As always the learning is endless and I am looking forward to where the children will take us as they explore and investigate. You can support and enhance this learning at home by showing an interest in the topic. This will help to further enrich their learning experiences and also continue to develop their language and extend their vocabulary. Please practise counting back from 10. (10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 BLAST OFF!)

Library Visits begin Tuesday 7th November

Your child will visit the school library once a week. Books will be sent home on Tuesdays so parents should return books to the nursery every Monday. Tuesday is the only day that books will be changed.

Please spend some time looking at the library book your child has brought home and read it together. Books must be looked after and all damaged or lost books will incur a charge.

Can you help us?

I would like to thank you for already providing us with lots of boxes and containers. These are a valuable resource and are used widely by the children. For our topic this month we really need empty kitchen roll holders to make telescopes, shiny or metallic materials/paper, milk carton tops, stars or tinsel and also if anyone can access large boxes we would appreciate these too.

We also need other items throughout the year such as.....

- * buttons, wool, ribbon, old zips, sandpaper, foil
 - *old birthday/Christmas cards/used envelopes...
 - *spare pieces of fabric -nylon, netting, velvet, fake fur...
 - *catalogues (the children will be browsing for Christmas presents very soon!!)
 - *dressing up clothes/bags/shoes
 - *cooking/baking equipment stored away in cupboards that you/family members don't use anymore, e.g. small saucepans, baking trays etc.
- As you can see the list is vast so we would ask you to think about us before you throw out any old/unwanted household items. All donations (child friendly) will be gratefully accepted.

Colour

This month we will focus on the colour silver to link with our 'Space' topic. If you have any silver items at home your child can bring them in for the colour display table. We will also look at the difference between grey and silver. Keep reinforcing all colours at home and extend the learning by talking about light and dark colours.

Shape

This month we will be learning about the star. We will be matching and sorting all shapes and encouraging the children to look for them in school and at home. The shops are full of stars for Christmas so this is a good learning opportunity. Encourage your child to find the stars and talk about them.

Happy Birthday

Conlaith

Niamh

Coats and Hats

The weather has become quite cold so please ensure your child has a warm coat and also a hat is usually a welcome addition as hoods do not always stay up. Please allow your child to hang up their own coat in the morning.



Quiet Learning

We have begun to engage the children in more settled and adult led activities. This takes place after dinner and we call this 'Quiet Learning'. This allows the children to develop concentration and to focus on co-operative group activities such as playing language and number games. These games involve learning about turn-taking, throwing and reading a number/colour/shape dice, recognising and matching pairs, listening and attending to others as well as encouraging lots of interaction with adults and peers. The adults use these opportunities to observe the children's progress and development in a number of areas.

Learning- Puzzles

We have been working on how to complete basic puzzles by first looking carefully at the picture and discussing what the puzzle is about before we begin to assemble it. The next step is finding all the outside pieces so talking about straight edges and corners can be developed here. Finally, we will add the inside pieces and give ourselves a clap. The puzzles we use vary in the number of pieces however; the process of completing each puzzle is exactly the same. Of course there are always children who do not need a structure and can visually see what they have to do without cues. You can support this learning at home. Remember it will not work if it's not FUN too! (there are many articles online that highlight the educational value of playing with puzzles in the early years)

Music and Movement

Here are some of the action songs we will be learning in November. We will also be starting to practise for our Christmas Show so encourage your child to share this learning with you.

- Dingle dangle scarecrow
- Twinkle twinkle little star
- Play 'Simon Says'
- Dance to 'The Hokey Cokey'
- 'Here we go round the Mulberry Bush' (you can adapt this song to almost anything such as 'this is the way we eat our food, eat our food ... this is the way we brush our teeth ... this is the way we wash our hands... so early in the morning')
- 'Heads, Shoulders, Knees and Toes'
- Space Songs-5 Little Men in a Flying Saucer

Ask your child to sing the songs to you.



Five Little Men in a Flying Saucer

Five little men in a flying saucer
Flew round the world one day
They looked left and right
But they didn't like the sight
So one man flew away
Wheeeeeeeeeee!!



Four little men in a flying saucer
Flew round the world one day
They looked left and right
But they didn't like the sight
So one man flew away
Wheeeeeeeeeee!!



Three little men in a flying saucer
Flew round the world one day
They looked left and right
But they didn't like the sight
So one man flew away
Wheeeeeeeeeee!!



Two little men in a flying saucer
Flew round the world one day
They looked left and right
But they didn't like the sight
So one man flew away
Wheeeeeeeeeee!!



One little man in a flying saucer
Flew round the world one day
He looked left and right
But he didn't like the sight
So one man flew away
Wheeeeeeeeeee!!



Dates for your Diary

- Nursery Christmas Show- Thursday 14th Dec @ 9.30am
- **Nursery Bedtime read Monday 13th November @ 5.00pm** a letter will follow near the time of the event.
- Nursery trip to Tesco Tuesday 28th November

School Book Fair- Monday 13th November- Friday 17th November (This will take place at the top end of the school and will be opened every morning. If you are not able to attend the book fair and would like your child to purchase a book just put some money in an envelope and the staff will take them up).

We are continuing to reinforce these very important rules.

'We keep our hands and our feet to ourselves'

'We tell the adults if somebody hurts us'

