



St John's Pre-school Newsletter – February 2022

Hi All

This month has absolutely flown by. We can already feel Spring's imminent arrival with the lighter mornings and daffodils starting to bloom in the pre-school grounds.

Please see below for a quick snapshot of what the kids have been up to this month and some key notices for the next couple of months.

January Highlights

Expressive Arts & Sensory Play

We've been embracing the cold, crisp weather with some winter themed expressive arts and sensory activities that the kids have loved. Lots of opportunities to get messy 😊

(1) Mitten sun catchers



(3) Glitter ball cups



(2) Polar Bear handprints



(4) Yoghurt cup bird feeders





(5) Artic life sensory tray



Birthdays

A big happy birthday to Teddy, Albie & Josh!



February Plans

Well, what an exciting February we have for you. It's Chinese New Year so we have a Mum coming in to inform the children how its celebrated. We have lots of different Chinese food during our snack times. Activities include ribbon dancing, Chinese restaurant role play, making tiger masks and learning to count 1 to 10 in Mandarin. Of course, the second week is all leading up to Valentines Day so we'll be creating something lovely which we'll keep as a surprise. As it's Personal Social Emotional Development we'll be encouraging the children to be kind, taking turns and recognising and encouraging friendships.

Later on in February we have Literacy, Reading and writing . We'll be encouraging the children to write their names on laminated sheets. We will have physical circle times including Simon Says and musical chairs.



We'll be asking the children to bring in a photo of either family or a pet and encourage them to speak about the picture. It's St David's day so we'll be making daffodils plus enjoying and understanding pancake day.

Reminders from the Staff

Hand Washing

Please note that we are trialling some new handwashing soaps and towels to try and reduced the soreness some of our kids are experiencing due to repeated handwashing. A big thank you to Morrisons who have kindly donated some soaps to get us started.

Illness

We kindly ask that you remain vigilant in terms of Covid-19 and notify us if you child is suffering from symptoms or if someone in the household tests positive so we can keep a record. Further guidance can be found on our website: <http://stjohns-preschool.co.uk/policies-2/covid-19-guidance/>

Parent Literacy Workshops

REMINDER: The REAL project is running parent literacy workshops focusing on supporting speech and language at home for the under 5s. These will be held over Zoom.

- 15th March 2022, 10am – 11.30am

If you're interested, please contact Angela Russell for more information or to book a place: arussell@ncb.org.uk or 07432 739032

Easy Running of Pre-school

Just a quick reminder that there are a few things you can do to help with the smooth running of the pre-school. All of these quick things help free up a lot of our time and aid the smooth running of the pre-school:

- Removing paper from bookbags daily & sending bookbags in empty the following day
- Labelling all clothing items including shoes
- Ensuring children have hats/gloves packed for colder days
- Any essential communication about your child is emailed or communicated via phone to staff

Thank you so much for your support on the above.

Fundraising Update

We've been busy planning our calendar of fundraising events for the year and hope to be bringing you some really lovely, interactive ones come Easter when the weather has improved and we're hopefully out the other side of Covid-19.

Here are a few ways you can help support keeping the pre-school running in the meantime:

Amazon Smile & Easy Fundraising



amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.



- (1) Amazon Smile – super easy to set-up and ensures that for every purchase you make through Amazon, Amazon make a donation to the pre-school. It's free for you but makes a BIG difference for us.
- (2) Easy Fundraising – just like Amazon Smile if you sign up and shop through a number of big-name high street retailers i.e., John Lewis, a donation will be made by that retailer to the pre-school. Again, it's super easy to set up, and free for you guys.

We'd really like to encourage you all to get these set up. If you have any questions, please drop us an email or grab one of the committee at drop off and we'd be happy to help.

Valentines Bake Sale



You know we love a bake sale! And the kids love it too. So, we thought we'd host a little one for Valentine's day, a chance to grab a little cakey gift for the ones you love.

So come join us Friday 11th February, 3pm.

And if you like a bit of baking and fancy donating a cake or some heart cookies, anything really, please let us know. We'd be super grateful!

Bags 2 School



We've been lucky enough to book another Bags 2 School pickup for **April**. So, if you're having a clear out, please keep hold of your clothes/shoes etc for our collection. More details to follow.

As always, if you have any questions on the above, please feel free to contact us on email or phone.

The Pre-School Team



PLEASE NOTE ALL NEWSLETTERS WILL BE UPLOADED TO THE WEBSITE FOR FUTURE REFERENCE