

Tiddly Winks Newsletter

December 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our December Newsletter, and as always, a very big welcome to our new families that have joined our Tiddly Winks family this month.

We have had a busy and fun-filled November with lots of amazing opportunities for the children to learn about the world around them and we look forward to a festive December in the nursery!

To find out more, please read on...

All the best,
Louise and Georgia

Learning Book

As you are all aware, the Learning Book application is coming to an end and will be replaced by Learning Journals in the New Year. You have up until the 24th December to purchase your child's Learning Book from Learning Book directly (through the storefront on the app). You should all have received a PDF of your child's Learning Book via email but the printed books and Digital books you can purchase are also wonderful! Learning book will not process any orders made after this date so please do be quick with any purchases you wish to make.

Christmas cards

Thank you to everyone that ordered Christmas cards. The team did a fantastic job and printing over 100 children's foot/handprints to create these gorgeous momentos. The proceeds have gone to our chosen charity 'Millie's World' for the second year and should be arriving soon!

Christmas party week!

As always, the staff team have planned a month full of exciting and festive activities for the children to participate in as we welcome the Christmas period.

This year, our 'Christmas Party Week' will be held from Monday 9th December to Friday 13th December. Please look out for posters outside your child's room, so you know what to expect from each day.

Road safety week

Road safety week has been spoken and learnt about in each room across the nursery this month as the children grasp an understanding of the importance of stopping, looking and listening. The activities, conversations and opportunities for role-play, enabled their understanding around the importance of being aware of road safety.



Dates for the diary:

Thursday 12th December - Christmas jumper day

Tuesday 24th December - Last day before Christmas

(Please note: children need to be collected by 4pm)

Wednesday 25th December - **Thursday 2nd January** - Hanukkah

Thursday 2nd January - Nursery re-opens

Parent messages:

There is a 'Parental Permission Document' that needs to be signed in your child's room ahead of Christmas Party Week.

News from around the rooms... Acorns

Acorns have touched on their emergent mathematic skills this month through engaging in various number activities. Using mathematical language around the children supports them as they develop in all areas and learn the process of counting. The children had a great time getting messy with maths! A particular favourite was mark-making with paint, on an up-right surface which also integrated counting opportunities.



Little Oaks

The children in Little Oaks have enjoyed engaging in the learning opportunity to explore fireworks in honour of Diwali and Bonfire night. They honed in on their creative skills and were delighted to discover colourful and sparkly paint to create their own representation of fireworks. In honour of Remembrance Day, the children had opportunities to learn about the representation of the poppy through manipulating playdough, whilst also becoming their own artists and creating wonderful Christmas themed decorations for the room!

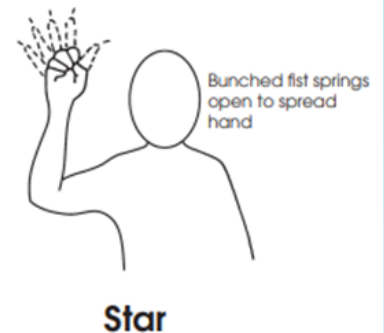


Policy of the month

Our policy folder is available in the front entrance for all parents and visitors to look through.

In addition, this month we will be refreshing ourselves with our 'Babysitting' policy.

Makaton sign of the month:



Junipers

The Juniper children have created wonderful Remembrance Poppy badges this month, which they were very proud to wear on their clothes after decorating them! Science experiment day led the children's curiosity as they watched a 'volcano' experiment with bicarbonate of soda and vinegar, whilst using this opportunity to discuss real volcanic eruptions.



Preschool

For Children in Need, Preschool were keen to show off their creative skills as they worked together to create a large Pudsey bear together, made of different materials, including; paint, tissue paper and coloured pens. This was a great social opportunity for the children to work together to make their very own mascot for the room!



A Christmas inspired recipe...

Gingerbread

Ingredients:

- 350g/12oz plain flour, plus extra for rolling out
- 1 tsp bicarbonate of soda
- 2 tsp ground ginger
- 1 tsp ground cinnamon
- 125g/4½oz butter
- 175g/6oz light soft brown sugar
- 1 free-range egg
- 4 tbsp golden syrup



Method:

1. Sift together the flour, bicarbonate of soda, ginger and cinnamon and pour into the bowl of a food processor. Add the butter and blend until the mix looks like breadcrumbs. Stir in the sugar.

2. Lightly beat the egg and golden syrup together, add to the food processor and pulse until the mixture clumps together. Tip the dough out, knead briefly until smooth, wrap in clingfilm and leave to chill in the fridge for 15 minutes.
 3. Preheat the oven to 180C/350F/Gas 4. Line two baking trays with greaseproof paper.
 4. Roll the dough out to a 0.5cm/ $\frac{1}{4}$ in thickness on a lightly floured surface. Using cutters, cut out the gingerbread men shapes and place on the baking tray, leaving a gap between them. For decorations, use a skewer to make a small hole in the top of each biscuit.
 5. Bake for 12-15 minutes, or until lightly golden-brown. Leave on the tray for 10 minutes and then move to a wire rack to finish cooling.
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