

Tiddly Winks Newsletter

March 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our March Newsletter, and as always, we would like to welcome our new families who have recently joined us.

We are looking forward to another exciting and fun filled month! To find out more, please read on...

All the best

Louise and Amelia

M.R.C Millie's World Fundraising



We are extremely proud to announce the total amount raised during our recent fundraising drive for M.R.C Millie's World; We would like to thank you all so much for your contributions and generosity when taking part in our raffle and cake sale combined with the games in the rooms as well as your kind sponsors towards our walk. From your donations alone meant that we could raise almost £500. We would also like to thank our amazing staff team, 11 of whom took part in the sponsored walk and finished the hike in just under 3.5 hours. Our team collected sponsorships from their friends and family and raised a huge £1,100. This takes our fundraising total to **£1,452.14**.

From all of us here at Tiddly Winks we just want to say a massive thank you, for all of the money raised! This money will help Millie with physio, ground breaking therapies, adjusted everyday living, sensory and medical equipment as well as possible overseas corrective surgeries.

Ramadan

This month we have been celebrating Ramadan across the whole nursery. This has sparked conversations between our Pre-school children as they show curiosity about the celebration! The practitioners extended their learning even further by giving the children the opportunity to create their very own Mosque, Prayer beads and binoculars to be able to look at the moon. The Moon is extremely important during Ramadan as it signifies the beginning and end of this Religious event.



Dates for the diary:

National Pet Month

- 1st April- April Fools Day
- 7th April- World Health Day
- 9th- 10th April- Eid-Al-Fitr
- 22nd April- Earth Day
- 23rd April- St George's Day

Parent messages:

Parking- This is a reminder that you **must not** park over our neighbours driveways, this includes the neighbours to the left, right and opposite the nursery.

Drop off and pick up- A gentle reminder that our opening hours are 8am until 6pm. Please do not enter the building before this time unless you have booked a pre-breakfast session. If this is the case, please do not enter the building before 7:30am due to insurance purposes.

Please also be reminded that the nursery closes at 6pm. In order to receive an in-depth handover, please arrive by 5:50pm at the latest.



Tiddly Winks Nursery

News from around the rooms...

Acorns:

Spring has officially sprung in the Acorns room, the practitioners transformed their home corner into a florist for the babies to explore which they adored! They have also been developing their creative skills as they make their very own Daffodils. Hand-painting is an excellent sensory-based activity, it engages multiple senses as well as providing an opportunity for self-expression!



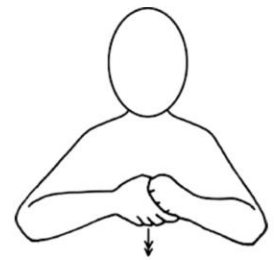
Snacks- Please do not leave any snacks for your children in their bags, this is due to our high amount of allergies throughout the nursery.

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 'outings' policy which is attached to this newsletter.

Makaton sign of the month



Friends

Little Oaks

In celebration of World Oral Health Day, Little Oaks have been promoting oral hygiene through role playing with the babies in the water tray as they brush their teeth. This is a fantastic way to talk to the children about the importance of looking after our teeth and brushing them once in the morning and once in the evening.

Little Oaks have also been incorporating some of the children's favourite books into their small world set-ups, such as:

- We're going on a bear hunt
- Giraffes can't dance
- The Gruffalo
- Three little pigs

Imaginative play plays an important role within the early years as it supports communication, language and helps to develop social skills.



Junipers

Some of our Juniper children had the opportunity to go on a nature walk to the park to collect natural resources for our curiosity tables. Going on a nature walk supports children to observe their natural environment with all their senses. These walks can support children's listening and attention skills as well as supporting them to begin to take in the details of the environment around them. The Juniper children thoroughly enjoyed self-selecting their own materials to bring back to nursery for the rest of their friends to explore 😊



Tiddly Winks Nursery

Pre-School

Our Pre-school children have thoroughly enjoyed taking part in some science experiments as they explore what happens when vinegar and bi-carbonate soda is mixed together. This is a fantastic way for the children to be able to tap into their curiosity and develop their desire to explore and experiment!

They have also been developing their fine motor skills through cutting as they create their own collages! Using scissors is a fantastic way to build up hand strength, develop hand-eye coordination, improve their bilateral coordination as well as supporting listening and attention.



Staff Updates

We would like to congratulate our lovely **Avril** who has now completed her level 3 qualification in childcare and is a fully qualified Practitioner 😊

We are proud to share with you that our very own **Nikki**, has been promoted to the position of Acorns Room Leader! **Nikki** was the perfect fit for the role and we have no doubt she will continue to embed the fun and nurturing environment Acorns is known for.



Tiddly Winks Nursery

Dish of the month

Chicken and Lemon skewers



Ingredients

- 1 small pack mint, leaves picked
- 150g natural yogurt, plus extra to serve (optional)
- 1 lemon, zested and juiced
- $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp ground cumin
- $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp ground coriander
- 2cm piece ginger, grated
- 4 skinless chicken breasts, each cut into 6 pieces
- 4 wholemeal flatbreads or pittas
- 2 Little Gem lettuces, sliced
- 1 small red onion, sliced, to serve

Method

- **STEP 1**

Chop half the mint and put in a bowl with the yogurt, half the lemon juice, all the lemon zest, spices and ginger. Mix well and season with lots of black pepper and a pinch of salt. Add the chicken pieces, mix well and put in the fridge for 20-30 mins. Meanwhile, soak 4 large wooden skewers in water for at least 20 mins (or use metal ones).

- **STEP 2**

When you're ready to cook the chicken, heat your grill to a medium heat and line the grill tray with foil. Thread the chicken onto the soaked wooden or metal skewers and grill for 15-20 mins, turning halfway through, until browned and cooked through.

- **STEP 3**

Warm the flatbreads under the grill for a couple of seconds, then serve them topped with the lettuce, chicken, red onion, remaining lemon juice and mint, and any optional extras such as extra yogurt or pickled cabbage, chilli sauce and hummus.

