

**January Newsletter 2020**

Dear Parents and Families,

Welcome back after the holidays! I hope you had an enjoyable and restful time and are looking forward to an exciting year full of great learning opportunities. We would like to say a huge thank you for our very lovely Christmas Cards & gifts; it’s very kind of you!

 December month was exciting and full of festive activities. I hope all the children received their present from The Orchard Day Nursery and some were posted, hope it reached on time!

Our Monthly topics for January will be New Year’s Resolutions, Chinese New Year (Year of the Rat), Dinosaurs and Space.

**In the under 2’s** we have created a variety of mark-making activities to enrich our festive experience. Babies and toddlers need to explore the world and develop a range of ways to communicate before they can express their own ideas, through arts and design.
Within this month, we will also be exploring and learning about space and various shapes and sizes. From triangles to squares, the children will be encouraged to feel and learn new words to their ever-growing vocabulary. With this in mind, we have designed boards to express ourselves through physical action as well as sound. Also! More new friends have joined us this month… a very warm welcome to Abigail, Eleanor. Theo and Axel who will be joining us soon. We hope you will all be very happy here at The Orchard day Nursery - exciting times ahead!

**In 2-3’s**, this month we will be learning about Space and Dinosaurs. We will talk about how big the dinosaurs were, what sounds they made and what they ate. Also, for Space, we will talk about what can we see when we look at the sky. We will make our Solar system. We will talk about the colours of the Sun, Moon and The Earth. At the end of the month, we will also celebrate the Chinese New Year. We will make some lanterns and use Chinese letter stencils for art.

**Preschool** will also be focusing on the topic “Space” and our place in the Solar System. The children will be learning about the Moon, Stars, Sun, planets… They will understand why life is possible only in our planet and help them appreciate the Earth. We will be looking at Carbon footprint and how we can all contribute towards it as an individual! It will give them an incentive to preserve and respect our natural resources. Simultaneously, they will build upon their own knowledge about “Dinosaurs”, their evolution to their extinction. The Pre-schoolers will also be shared with the most important festival of China “The Chinese New Year”. Teaching them about the celebrations around the world ill broader their minds and increase their cultural awareness.

Challenge for Pre School Children:

* Encourage them to understand Carbon Footprint:
* Switching the lights off
* Turning the tap off
* Walk to the nursery or local shops
* Recycling rubbish!

Recently I have had to discuss Inclusion with some of you. Inclusion is in general terminology for the nursery when we cater and provide for every individual child needs and development. I understand for some of you learnt behaviour at nursery is a bit of a challenge at home, I would like you to please expand your children’s knowledge through some bedtime read, follow the link below!

[https://www.amazon.co.uk/Superhero-Brain-Explaining-autism-empower](https://www.amazon.co.uk/Superhero-Brain-Explaining-autism-empower/dp/1542887216/ref%3Dsr_1_1?keywords=books+for+childrenon+autism&qid=1578922729&sr=8-1-spell)

[https://www.amazon.co.uk/Childrens-Guide-Autism-Fiona-Reeves](https://www.amazon.co.uk/Childrens-Guide-Autism-Fiona-Reeves/dp/1517038677/ref%3Dsr_1_2?keywords=books+for+childrenon+autism&qid=1578922729&sr=8-2-spell)

[https://www.amazon.co.uk/graves-behaviour-matters-books-collection](https://www.amazon.co.uk/graves-behaviour-matters-books-collection/dp/9123650672/ref%3Dsr_1_16?crid=38IQDNXX7TK7H&keywords=behaviour+books+for+children&qid=1578924511&sprefix=behaviour+books+for%2Caps%2C151&sr=8-16)

[https://www.amazon.co.uk/Elizabeth-Verdick](https://www.amazon.co.uk/Elizabeth-Verdick/e/B001JS1HGS/ref%3Dpd_aw_sbs_14_bl_2/259-5973213-7922457?_encoding=UTF8&pd_rd_i=1575421283&pd_rd_r=9f78ba95-79cc-4860-a653-f15e92fe20f8&pd_rd_w=dff2Q&pd_rd_wg=MhIZF&pf_rd_p=0208d703-a674-4413-8899-c3889837d212&pf_rd_r=536QGJPSEYS81R8EB6RJ&refRID=536QGJPSEYS81R8EB6RJ)

Children at this age are exploring and investigating, they are curious about all sorts of human behaviour that is happening around them, which may vary from child to child. Please do not be alarmed, if guided and moulded correctly we can together make a difference in your child’s understanding! As a parent myself I have had many challenges to come across, however, I believe reading is a great way to satisfy their curiosity!

**GENTLE REMINDER!**

**Front Door**: Please can we remind you all that you must not let other parents/carers in the door when entering/leaving the building. For your children’s safety, it is vital that we know exactly who is always in the building. Thank you in advance for your co-operation!

**Drop off times:** Please create a smooth transition during drop-offs, allow enough time to hand over your child to respective teachers! Please do not hang around if your child is upset as you will distress your child even more. Due to the high number of sickness, we would appreciate if you only allow teachers with blue gloves to serve breakfast to your children. I would appreciate if parents didn’t serve breakfast to your children! If you think if your child didn’t have a great night, please inform us at your earliest convenience, this gives us a good insight into your child’s needs and requirements!

**Pick up times:** Just a polite reminder to all our parents that the sessions end at 1 pm and 7 pm. Please ensure you arrive at 12.50 and 6.50 at the latest to receive a handover (verbal feedback) about your child’s day. We are having quite a lot of parents collect late meaning the handovers run over time. We have daily reports being sent as well and if you require to have verbal feedback as please allow not more than 5 minutes as this take staff away from ratios and other children are being neglected. Thank you in advance.

**Appropriate clothing:** Now that the weather is getting a little colder please can we remind you all to bring appropriate clothing for the children to be wearing in the garden. We are still having a lot of children who are not bringing in a coat and unfortunately, we do not have enough spares for them all to wear. Please kindly label the clothing as much as possible especially in the baby-room!

**Sickness:** If your child shows any signs of being unwell, please keep them away from the nursery. This is to stop it from spreading to other children and staff.

**Prescription Medicine:** If your child is on prescription medication, please ensure the medicine is clearly labelled and you have filled the form on Genie before leaving the premises. Childs medication will only be accepted after seeing the correctly labelled medicine or a medical note.

The Orchard Day Nursery has an open-door policy, if you have any questions please speak to management, we are always happy to help. Thank you for your support.

Kind Regards,

Erum and the Nursery Team