

SPRING
ISSUE

Newsletter

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SPRING TERM 2017

Morning School Themes

How fortunate we have been to start the Spring Term with such bright and sunny wintry weather. Dressed in warm coats, hats and scarves our children have been able to access our garden environment whenever they want to. Many have been excited to notice the bulbs that were planted in the autumn starting to push through the soil. Spring can't be far away.

Our first few weeks of the term have been spent focusing on 2D and 3D shapes. Children have explored their properties, sorted and arranged them, looked for them in common objects around the nursery and built junk models. Theo M showed us some photographs of all the different shaped road signs he had spotted on his bike ride. Thank you Theo!



In science we have made bird cakes to feed our garden birds during the cold weather. We have looked at similarities and differences and with the help of some lovely books and charts we have begun to learn some of their names. In addition to our regular teacher led activities of music, drama, yoga and Forest School, we have had weekly cooking sessions this term.

After Half Term we will spend some time looking at traditional stories and rhymes. Learning to recite nursery rhymes together is not only fun but also helps with reading development. We welcome any parents, grandparents or nannies to come and read a favourite story to their child's group. Please do make it a consideration - the children love it! We will be inviting past Acorn teachers in also, to add some variety to our story reading sessions.

Our Foundation Stage children have started to look at a letter a week. They are learning the sound it makes, how to write it and identify it in print. We follow 'Read Write Inc' in line with other nursery and school settings.

We also support each child to 'have a go' at writing their own name at whatever stage of development they are at.

After Half Term we will be using the story of Goldilocks and the 3 Bears in our drama sessions. The songs that accompany this story as well as those introduced in our music sessions with Mrs Horwood are on a CD for you, which have already been distributed. In this way you can feel fully involved in what is happening!

Afternoon School

The numbers in our afternoon red groups are increasing as more children join us. All are now settled and forming good relationships with their peers and staff and enjoying busy afternoons. Our youngest children are in a very small group under the careful nurturing of Mrs Stevens and her assistant. We do believe that in these small groups the children get the individual support and attention they need at this important time. During the sessions the children have a balance of child initiated and teacher directed play, including music and dance and lots of opportunities to explore our large garden. You will have received a CD of their Spring Music that they are enjoying with Mrs Risby and there will be an Open Music session at the end of term for you to enjoy. You will have received a CD of their Spring Music that they are enjoying with Mrs Risby and there will be an Open Music session at the end of term for you to enjoy.



Diploma in Early Years Workforce level 3 and Degree in Childhood Studies

Mrs Sarah Prosser is continuing with her studies for level 3 and Miss Hannah Scriven for her degree. If you are interested in finding out more about the courses do talk to Mrs Scarborough, who is our qualified 'in house' assessor. Interviews at Highlands for the Autumn intake will happen shortly, and we have 2 mothers gaining work experience in the school in preparation for their applications.



Parking

It has come to our notice that some parents are parking in the waterboard incorrectly. Please ensure that you drive right around and park parallel to our road. There are always places right near the gate or behind the cars already parked there. Please do not park right in front of the waterboard access. As always we are aware of and concerned about Road Safety outside the school. Please ensure that you park near to the white wall, hold your child's hand at all times, and drive cautiously and slowly in the area.

Behaviour Policy

We continue to focus on good behavior and encouraging all the children to say 'Good Morning' and 'Good Bye' at the start and end of each session. We are delighted to say that Acorn children are showing excellent manners in this area so please do not forget to support and remind them as they come into school.

Christmas DVD Fund Raising

Thanks to Mrs Rebecca Kennedy's hard work and your generosity we raised the magnificent sum of £620 for our two Acorn charities. - Kivukoni School in Kenya and Pegasus - an educational project in South Africa. We do have a few DVD's left over if anyone would like an extra - no charge.

Dates for your diary

Half Term - Monday 20th February - Friday 24th February
End of term - Friday 31st March 12.15



All future dates are available on our website
www.acornnurseryschool.com

Mother/Granny Helpers

Thank you to those who are running our snack times, where we are endorsing good manners and healthy eating, and helping with our cookery sessions.

Reminders

Please remember to put any gloves and hats (named) in the children's boxes and not on their pegs. Also if you are buying new shoes please consider how independently your child can manage changing them - (garden play/yoga) i.e. no laces or tight trainers.

Re Registration

Thank you once again for the wonderful feedback we received via the parent's survey, which was part of our Re Registration. All the staff do really appreciate your views and are very grateful that you are so supportive and enthusiastic about all that we do and that we provide for your children.

Tapestry

We hope you are enjoying receiving observations of your child's learning through Tapestry. This can be a two way process and we love to receive posts from you of special moments we can share. We do encourage you to look at the Learning Journal together with your child so they know you are part of and proud of their progress.



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