



Castlereagh Nursery School

'Hand in Hand We Learn Together'

February 2024 Newsletter



Over the past few weeks the children have been excited to learn about the 'Cold Lands and Winter' topic and explored the properties of ice in the water tray. We learned all about the animals that live in the South Pole and experienced some very cold weather outside nursery too.

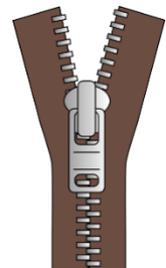
What are we learning in February?

This month the children will be learning all about Chinese New Year, tasting Chinese food and creating their own Chinese writing and art work. We will also be learning about our homes, animal homes and looking out for the first signs of Spring. We will be using various junk materials to make bird houses. Please send in some small boxes from your recycling bin for the children to make houses from.

Helping your child at home

Well done to those children who have worked hard to put on and zip up their own coats by themselves. What a great achievement!!

Please encourage your child to attempt to zip up their own coat and put on their hat and gloves. This enables them to become more independent when we are getting ready to go outside. Please ensure you send a warm coat and a hat if possible, to school, every day with your child.



Focus Children

We hope you have enjoyed receiving the observations home after your child's focus week. We have found this very beneficial and feel we really get to know your child particularly well during that time. We are now beginning our second set of observations and hope to have these completed before the parent teacher consultations at the end of April.



Superhero Day



To raise funds for Air Ambulance NI, who really are superhero's. The children can dress up as super hero's on Thursday 29th February. Please do not go out especially and buy your child an outfit. A home made mask or cape would be great. Don't forget there are lots of super hero's you might not have thought about, like Anna (who can turn things to ice) and Rapunzel (who could heal people with her hair) or Harry Potter (who could do magic).



Eco Schools

Please have a look on our website under the tab 'Our School'- Eco Schools. Mrs Jones has been leading the school towards achieving our Eco Schools Green flag. The children have been learning all about recycling and looking after the planet. We have also had a visit from Belfast City Council Recycling.

**The children have helped us to create our Eco-Code
"At Castlereagh we recycle everyday. Healthy living is our way."**



Mother's Day Stay and Play

We are having a Mother's Day stay and play, you are invited to come and stay after school and paint a heart tea light holder with your child. There will be no charge for this activity.

It's a little thank you from us - to you for Mother's Day!

Stay and Play - Monday 4th March Mrs Morrow's Class 1.10pm-1.40pm

Stay and Play - Tuesday 5th March Mrs Jones' Class 1.20pm - 1.50pm



Orange Pips Playgroup

Every year we have children who transition from Orange Pips playgroup, located on Castlereagh Road. They are having their open day on Wednesday 7th February 12.30pm - 1.30pm. If you have friends or family members with children in their pre-pre year, please consider viewing their fantastic facilities.

Safer internet Day

Tuesday 6th February is safer internet day. We will be looking at bespoke educational resources tailored for nursery children. These will include interactive stories and group discussions. As a parent it is important you know what your child is watching online.



The website below is excellent at providing explanations and resources for parents to use to talk to their child about being safe online. This resource is not only useful for nursery children but also for young people up to 18 years.

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2024/parents-and-carers>

Parent Teacher Consultations

Dates for your Diary

To give you advance notice, we will be holding our parent teacher consultations on

Monday 15th April for Mrs Morrow's Class

Tuesday 16th April for Mrs Jones' Class

Sheets for you to choose a suitable time slot will be placed outside each room on Monday 25th March. These are 10 minute time slots where your child's teacher will discuss their progress and show you photographs and observations of your child. Times will be available from 9am - 3.30pm.

Songs and Rhymes for February

Family Love

I love you, You love me!
We're a happy family!
With a great big hug and a kiss from me to you!
Won't you say you love me too!



Build a House!

Build a house with five bricks
One, two, three, four, five
Put a roof on top
And a chimney too
Where the wind blows through...
WHOO WHOO

When Goldilocks went to the house of the bears!

When Goldilocks went to the house of the Bears,
Oh what did her Blue Eyes see?
A bowl that was huge,
A bowl that was small,
And a bowl that was tiny and that was all,
She counted them One, Two, Three.....



Repeat for Chair, Bed and Bear

Five Little Speckled Frogs

*Five little speckled frogs
Sat on a speckled log
Eating some most delicious grubs -
yum, yum
One jumped into the pool
Where it was nice and cool
Now there are four green speckled
frogs - glub, glub
.....Four, Three, Two, One*



See The Bunnies Sleeping

See the bunnies sleeping till it's nearly noon
Shall we wake them with a merry tune?
They're so still, are they ill?
Wake up little bunnies!
Hop little bunnies, hop, hop, hop
Hop, hop, hop - Hop, hop, hop
Hop little bunnies, hop, hop, hop
Hop, hop, hop...

Repeat with
Skip little bunnies....,
Jump little bunnies....

Confirmed Dates for your Diary

February	
W/B 5 th February	Please bring an item in the shape of a Rectangle
Fri 9 th Feb	Sonal Sports - Coach Paul teaching physical ball skills
W/B 12 th Feb	Please bring an item in the shape of a Heart
Tue 13 th Feb	<p style="text-align: center;">Last day before half term - School closes at 11.10am - Mrs Morrow's class 11.20am Mrs Jones' Class</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Mrs Pendleton's last day at Castlereagh Nursery School</p>
Monday 19 th Tuesday 20 th Feb	<p style="text-align: center;">School development day (4 and 5) School closed for children</p>
Wed 21 st Feb	School Re-opens for children
March	
Fri 1 st March	Sonal Sports - Coach Paul teaching physical ball skills
Mon 4 th March	Stay and Play Mrs Morrow's Class 1.10pm - 1.40pm
Tue 5 th March	Stay and Play Mrs Jones' Class 1.20 - 1.50pm
Fri 15 th March	Sonal Sports - Coach Paul teaching physical ball skills
Mon 18 th March	<p style="text-align: center;">St Patrick's Day - School will close early Mrs Morrow's class 11.10am - 11.20am Mrs Jones' Class 11.20am- 11.30am No school dinners</p>
Wed 27 th March	<p style="text-align: center;">Easter Egg Hunt Mrs Morrow's class 11am - 11.10am Mrs Jones' Class 11.20- 11.30am Last day before Easter Holidays No School Dinners</p>
April	
Tue 9 th and Wed 10 th April	<p style="text-align: center;">School Development days (6 and 7) School closed for children</p>
Mon 15 th April	Parent Teacher Consultations Mrs Jones
Tue 16 th April	Parent Teacher Consultations Mrs Morrow
Fri 19 th April	Sonal Sports - Coach Paul teaching physical ball skills

Thursday 25 th April	Notification of P1 placements and Nursery Placements
May	
Monday 6 th May	School Closed - May Day Bank Holiday
Friday 10 th May	Sonal Sports - Coach Paul teaching physical ball skills
Friday 17 th May	Sonal Sports - Coach Paul teaching physical ball skills
Friday 17 th May	World Recycling Day
Friday 24 th May	Induction day for new children starting in September 2024 - Nursery closed for current children
Mon 27 - Fri 31 st May	Bank Holiday and School Development Days School Closed
June	
Monday 3 rd June	School Re-opens
Wednesday 5 th June	World Environment Day
Friday 7 th June	Sonal Sports - Coach Paul teaching physical ball skills
Friday 14 th June	Sports Day Mrs Morrow's class 12.50pm - 1.05pm Mrs Jones class 1.15pm-1.30pm All parents are welcome to come and watch in the (Lisnasharragh Leisure Centre) 4G pitch beside the nursery.
Monday 24 th June	Mr Hullabaloo Interactive Theatre Visit to Nursery
Friday 28 th June	Last day of Nursery - Sing-a-long in the garden 11am - All parents welcome

**Please check these dates each month as more
activities will be added when confirmed**

Funding

We have received funding from Belfast City Council 'School Hardship' fund. This is a fund set up to help alleviate cost-of-living pressures on children and families during these challenging times. In order to support all parents we will use this money to pay the snack and enrichment fund for February. This means all parents do not need to make this payment. This is a saving of £10.50 for every family.

Every little helps!!!