



## Tiny Tigers Newsletter Feb/March 2020

### STAFF NEWS

We have two new staff members joining us this term Kat will be working on a Friday and Lauren will be working voluntary on a Monday to gain experience to work towards her level 3.

### WINTER WEATHER

Even though the weather has become milder recently the cold weather is never far away, so could you please still bring warm coats/layers, hats, scarves and gloves in with your children so we can continue to use the outside area.

*"Schools should, wherever possible, stay open in severe weather. They play a key role in their communities and by staying open help both their pupils and parents."* - **Department for Education**

Every winter brings the possibility of snow and ice. Extreme bad weather can cause widespread and prolonged disruption. Schools are often affected and it can be difficult to maintain an education service.

As a fundamental principle every effort must be made to keep schools open, even if only limited numbers of pupils can attend. However schools may close due to 'unavoidable' circumstances. Those circumstances being that it is no longer safe for staff or pupils to be onsite.

However, if we do experience severe snow/ice resulting in hazardous conditions, Natalie may have to take the decision to close the Preschool. Once this decision has been made we will notify parents via our class dojo.

### TOPICS

Our topic for after half term will be Spring, we are going to start with the story of "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" alongside this story the children will have the opportunity to watch the lifecycle of a caterpillar turning into a butterfly and then releasing them into nature .

### WATER BOTTLES.

Please could we remind you to bring in a named sports bottle of water for your child each session, could we also ask you to remember to take them home each day, as we seem to have a number left behind. Please could you check in the water bottle tray to see if any belong to your child.

### SPARE CLOTHES.

Please could we remind all parents/carers to bring in a named bag with spare clothes as children

may need changing during the session due to getting wet/dirty during snack, lunch or taking part in an activity. Could we also ask that all personal belongings be named including coats, wellies and wetsuits, which can now be left at the setting to enable the children to make the most of our forest school.

### **ABSENCES**

If your child is going to be absent from preschool please could you let us know by either texting or phoning the following number 07563544325 only as Natalie's number is now unavailable. Also can we remind you that if anyone different will be collecting your child could you please let us know in advance so we are aware of any changes.

### **INVOICES**

Invoices are given to parents monthly, Please could we remind all parents to pay them preferably by Bacs payment within a week of receipt.

### **PACKED LUNCHES**

We are trying to encourage the children to be more independent regarding their packed lunches, please could you try and provide them with packages that they can open on their own as well as cutting up fruit i.e. grapes and tomatoes etc.

### **TERM DATES**

**Term 4** - Mon 24th Feb - Fri 27<sup>th</sup> March

**Term 5** - Tues 14th April - Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> May

**Bank holiday** - Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May

Many Thanks

Tiny Tigers Preschool

# Tiny Tigers Preschool



## Term 4 - 2020 STRIPES Newsletter



Welcome to the STRIPES (Starting Transition Ready In Preparation for Entering School) newsletter. Here you will receive information each term of the activities that we will be undertaking for your older children, and getting them ready for the transition to "big school". Of course this is a long way off yet and we work very closely with the reception class teacher to find out what will be expected of your child when they move up to Reception.

### Routine of the session

- 1.15pm - registration and carpet time to discuss letter sounds etc
- 1.30pm - free play and adult initiated activities including mark making, PE sessions and ICT sessions
- 2.30pm - tidy up time/drink and biscuit
- 2.40pm - whole group story time
- 2.50pm - outside play before going home (weather permitted- if not story time will continue)
- 3.00pm - Home time

### Physical development

The children will also take part in PE sessions in the school hall which will include music and movement as well as taking part in sport activities. When we spoke to the reception she told us that one of the main things the children need to be able to do when they start "big school" is to get changed for PE independently.

We therefore ask if you could provide your child with a pair of shorts/tracksuit bottoms, a t shirt and a pair of trainers in a named bag.

P.E Sessions will take place on the following dates this term:

- 6<sup>th</sup> March

### Understanding the world: technology

Once every four weeks we will have a technology afternoon at preschool for the children to acquire basic skills in turning on and operating some ICT equipment, including tablets, remote control toys, cameras, toy electronic keyboards, torches, radios and karaoke machines.

We also talk about ICT apparatus, what it does, what they can do with it and how to use it safely including how to stay safe when using the internet.

### Literacy: reading

Throughout this term we will be discussing main story settings, events and characters. We will be looking at how a story is structured; beginning, middle and end and think of different ways that a story could end. We will be looking at the print, and that in English it is read from left to right and top to bottom.

### Letters and sounds

Letters and Sounds is a phonics resource published by the Department for Education and Skills in 2007. It aims to build children's speaking and listening skills in their own right as well as to prepare children for learning to read by developing their phonic knowledge and skills. It sets out a detailed and systematic programme for teaching phonic skills for children starting by the age of five, with the aim of them becoming fluent readers by age seven.

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <i>Phase</i><br><i>One (Nursery/Reception)</i> | Activities are divided into seven aspects, including environmental sounds, instrumental sounds, body sounds, rhythm and rhyme, alliteration, voice sounds and finally oral blending and segmenting. |
|--|---|

### Literacy: Writing

Lots of children of pre-school age are too young to have established whether they are right or left handed and have not yet developed their motor skills for writing. Learning to write too soon, with incorrect letter formation and pencil grip can hinder their future progress in literacy. You may notice at home that your child will swap hands from left to right and this is known as the "cross over" or "mid point" as they have not yet developed the right and left hemisphere of their brains. Whereas, as adults we move the paper, children have not reached that concept and will move their hands. Therefore, during our Friday afternoon sessions we encourage the development of fine motor skills through a combination of gross motor skills activities such as drawing, painting, colouring, tracing, threading, cutting, construction, play dough, streamers with music and model making.

We hope that you find the above information helpful and please encourage any activities with your children at home. If you would like to discuss any aspect of the Friday afternoon sessions please come and speak with Natalie or Claire W.