

February 2019

Newsletter



Hello everyone. It's a busy half term at Happy Faces with lots of fun and learning! The children have enjoyed thinking about the icy weather, making snowman pictures, exploring the ice outside as well as making postcards, walking to the post office and posting them to you all.

We are looking forward to welcoming parents/carers in on 14th February for a special Valentines share session. Happy Faces will then be closed for half term the week beginning 18th February.

We are also saying goodbye to Claire Carr at the end of this half term as she leaves Happy Faces. Claire has worked at Happy Faces for nearly 5 years and has got to know many of you in that time. We want to wish Claire all the best for the future. If your child had Claire as a keyworker their new keyworker will speak to you soon so that you can get to know them. If you have any questions, please speak to me or your child's keyworker.

Diana André

Preschool Manager

Reminders

Parent Share Sessions

Thursday 14th February

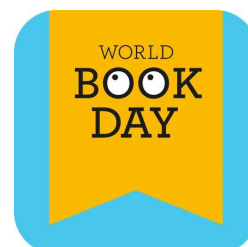
Either: 11am- 11.45am (you can take your child home at the end of this session if they attend just the morning session)

Or: 2.15pm - 3pm (children can go home at 3pm on this day)



World Book Day

This event is on Thursday 7th March and celebrates everything about books and reading worldwide! We will be celebrating with lots of fun activities. Children who attend on this day are invited to bring their favourite book in with them and dress up as a character from their favourite book.



Parents meetings

We are holding parent's meetings during the weeks beginning 4th March and 11th March. This meeting is an opportunity for you to come and meet with your child's keyworker to talk about how they are getting on at preschool and to discuss the progress they are making. There will be sheets to sign up for a time in the coat peg area. Please make sure you sign up.

Snack Time

Thank you for contributing to snack time, we ask that all parents bring in some fruit, vegetable, crackers, breadsticks or cheese each week for the children to eat for a snack. We cut the fruit up and share it when it is snack time.



Tapestry

Thank you for logging on and viewing your child's learning journey. It is also brilliant if you can add your own comments, photos and observations of what your child is doing at home.

If you would like more help / support in accessing Tapestry, please do not hesitate to ask us to show you.



Don't forget to check our Facebook page, which you can follow. We often post updates to show you what the children have been doing. Feel free to add your comments. 😊



Term Dates

Spring Term 2019

7th January 2019 – 5th April 2019

Half Term: 18th February 2019 – 22nd February 2019

Easter Break: Begins 8th April – 23rd April 2019

(Children back on 24th April 2019)

Summer Term 2019

24th April 2019 – 18th July 2019

Half Term: 27th May 2019 – 31st May 2019

Independence

It's time to leave and you are running late. So, what happens when coats have to be put on? It may be quicker to do up the coat for your child rather than watching little fingers slowly tackling the task, but how important is it for children to do things for themselves and become independent?

Independence is important for children to learn as they grow up to become confident and resilient individuals. At Happy Faces there are lots of opportunities for children to develop independence. As they master new skills or take on some responsibility, they begin to see themselves as being capable. This gives them added confidence and makes them more likely to try out new things. This means that your child will be encouraged to hang up their coat or pour a drink. Your child is also given plenty of opportunities to choose what to play with, which allows them to explore and learn independently. These activities are sometimes known as 'child initiated', as they are designed to let children learn and do things for themselves

What can I do for my child at home?

Home is an ideal place to practise becoming independent. Start by looking to see what your child can do already and build on this. If your child can put their coat on, maybe they can have a go at doing up one of the buttons or pulling up the zip once you have started it off. Working alongside your child is often helpful so that they can learn skills by watching you, children often learn best by simply enjoying being with you and chatting.

You can help your child to be more independent with their toileting by dressing them in clothes that are easy to pull up and down. If their clothes have lots of buttons or are tight, children will find it difficult and may not try to go to the toilet. Simple tracksuit bottoms that can be pulled up and down easily are ideal.

Children do need extra time to manage even simple tasks, but gradually, they will speed up and become capable. It is worth ignoring the temptation to immediately take over a task if a child is struggling. Sometimes a little more time or a few words of encouragement are all your child needs.