



## Newsletter - Term 2 (4 January to 31 March 2021)

### News / Fundraising

We were recently contacted by Lincolnshire Co-operative stores to let us know that a cheque from our local Community Champion placement would be on its way shortly. We don't know how much we will get yet but are very excited at the thought of putting the money to good use on a special project we have been hoping to do for some time - watch this space.

The children aren't the only ones honing their learning skills at Abbey 345. Becky and Nay are working on a Forest School practitioner qualification, Jane has enrolled on a Teaching Yoga to young children course and Kathy has completed a course on Feeling Safe in an Unsafe World - which deals with the many anxieties felt by small children, not only due to Covid 19, but with a host of everyday issues - and how to support children through them.

### What we have been learning about

We are finding pleasure in exploring the outside world as much as possible and learning from the wonders of Mother Nature. We took part in the Great Garden Bird watch to see how many different visitors we had to our woodland garden, having first made sure of their welcome by creating a variety of bird feeders - suet balls, orange halves filled with dried fruit & nuts and cheerio'd pipe cleaners.

Within Preschool's walls we have been exploring a wide range of lightbox resources, learning about all sorts of emotions and doing lots of cosy comfort cooking - yummy!

As part of Children's Mental Health Week, we have continued to explore our emotions, sharing a variety of resources including The Lion inside, a book that shows us how we all have both a lion and a mouse within us - and The Colour Monster, which explores emotions through colour. We have used our mindfulness scavenger hunt cards and discussed what makes us happy and sad, what you can do to make someone smile, what we are grateful for and what is to be treasured.

During Forest School we have been working on developing our observation abilities, searching for the mini beasts as they hide and hibernate from Winter (not disturbing them but capturing on film). The children were fascinated by the number of different spiders and habitats they found - and enthralled by the discovery of a massive rope spiders web that they lost no time in climbing on and through - whilst keeping an eye out for the equally giant spider that might be nearby.

We have not lost sight of our physical needs whilst examining our inner feelings and our children have continued to cook up a veritable feast of healthy savoury snacks and the odd "naughty" nibble.

### COVID-19 SYMPTOMS

If your child has any of the symptoms below you need to book a test for them and the whole family need to self-isolate for 10 days or until you get a Negative test result.

- A **continuous cough** is classed as a coughing fit which has lasted one hour, or three coughing fits within a 24 hour period. Occasional coughs which accompany a blocked or runny nose, sore throat and sneezes are not classed as a continuous cough.
- A fever or raised temperature of 37.8c or above (not a short spike in temperature).
- A loss of taste or smell or a **CHANGE** in taste or smell.

### Thank you

- As we all found ourselves in the third lockdown in the last 10 months we would like to say a big thank you to everybody who continues to support us - as we try to ensure we provide a safe, welcoming and exciting environment for our children during these challenging times. This includes our parents for their help and understanding during this difficult, constantly changing scenario and those amongst our local community and beyond who cheer us on and cheer us up with kind words, gestures and donations of new resources.
- To Committee member Emily who developed delightful craft packs, including all materials, for our families to enjoy making a range of activities at home together and to Jane - who as "A dollop of love" has been creating a range of indoor and outdoor artwork to beautify your homes and gardens. Both these ladies are generously donating a percentage of their sales to preschool.
- Thanks to our local sponsors - Ultimate Reflections, Jackdaw Childcare & MP Auto Care.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

### January, February & March

Theo, Archer, Kathy, Llanan, Harry, Emma, Aston,  
Maisie & Leo

### TERM DATES

#### Term 2a

4<sup>th</sup> Jan to 12<sup>th</sup> Feb

#### Term 2b

22<sup>nd</sup> Feb to 31<sup>st</sup> Mar



If your child is feeling unwell, please do not bring them into pre-school. If too many of our staff get sick we will not be able to open as we will not have sufficient adults to maintain the necessary ratios.

### Help your child at home

- Please help your child become an independent dresser, teach them to put their coats on, do buttons & zips up and put their shoes on.
- Look out for numbers and letters in the environment, children love to spot them and tell you what they are.
- Talk to your child about the seasons, how plants & animals grow, where certain food comes from etc
- Talk about their senses appropriately - taste, sight, hearing, touch & smell.
- Positional language in context - in, out, over, under, above, below etc.
- Remember to look on our windows, notice board and Facebook page for ideas, information & events.

## GALLERY

