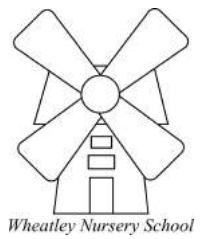


Wheatley Nursery School Newsletter

March 2024



Dates for diary

Early finish 12pm on the 28th March
Easter Holiday 29th March - 12th April 2024

Please be careful and slow when you enter the school car park area. A reminder that drop off times are 9am (not any earlier), and pick ups after 3pm please. This enables the transport for John Watson School to safely leave the site and gives nursery parents more space.



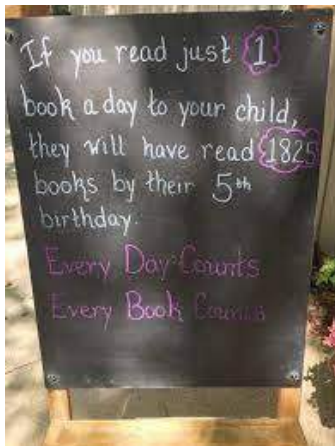
Please not bring dogs onto the Nursery and John Watson site at drop off and pick up times as some children find them upsetting. Thank you for your understanding.



Spring Term 4

Our topics this term are:

- People who help us
- Book glorious books
- The 3 little pigs
- Spring has sprung!



Developing a Love of Reading

Taking the time to read with your children on a regular basis sends an important message: Reading is worthwhile.

One more time

You may go through a period when your child favours one book and wants it read night after night. It is not unusual for children to favour a particular story, and this can be boring for parents. Keep in mind, however, that a favourite story may speak to your child's interests or emotional needs. Be patient.

Wheatley Nursery update

The topic for the first 2 weeks of term is 'People Who Help us' and the children have particularly enjoyed finding out about firefighters. They have engaged in lots of firefighter role play and have been thinking about the uniform firefighters need to wear to stay safe. We had the opportunity to try on a real firefighters helmet and were very surprised that it was so heavy.



The children put out foam fires using water sprays which was fun. We found out that firefighters use long hoses to shoot water at fires, which puts them out.



Continue to expose your children to a wealth of books and eventually they will be ready for more stories.

Talking about stories

It's often a good idea to talk about a story you are reading, but you need not feel compelled to talk about every story. Good stories will encourage a love for reading, with or without conversation. And sometimes children need time to think about stories they have read. A day or so later, don't be surprised if your child mentions something from a story you've read together.

Remember when you were very young

It will help, however, if we open our eyes to some things adult readers tend to take for granted. It's easier to be patient when we remember how much children do not know. Here are a few concepts we adults know so well we forget sometimes we ever learned them.

-There's a difference between words and pictures. Point to the print as you read aloud.

-Words on a page have meaning, and that is what we learn to read.

-Words go across the page from left to right. Follow with your finger as you read.

-Words on a page are made up of letters and are separated by a space.

-Each letter has at least two forms: one for capital letters and one for small letters.

Here are some more tips to help you enjoy storytime together:

Ask your child to choose what they'd like to read. They'll feel more interested in the story if they've picked it out themselves. (And don't worry if they keep returning to the same story, either!)

If you can, turn off the TV, radio and computer. It's easier for both of you to enjoy the story without any other distractions.

Sit close together. You could encourage your child to hold the book themselves and turn the pages, too.

Take a look at the pictures. You don't just have to read the words on the page. Maybe there's something funny in the pictures that you can giggle about together, or perhaps your child enjoys guessing what will happen next.

Ask questions and talk about the book. Picture books can be a great way to talk through your child's fears and worries, or to



We have set up a role play hospital and the children are enjoying lots of games together. We found out that you can call 999 for help in an emergency but you should never call that number unless it is a real emergency.

A real highlight was a visit from a firefighter and paramedic who talked to the children about the special jobs that they do.



Little Windmills update

The children are embracing the theme of 'People who help us' They are keen to 'put out fires' using the squirty water bottles! We are enjoying dressing up as firefighters and singing 5 little firefighters standing in a row, practising cardinal counting and understanding that quantity changes when 1 is added or taken away.

help them deal with their emotions. Give them space to talk, and ask how they feel about the situations in the story.

Children love non fiction too (information books). My son loved football annuals and biographies of his favourite players as he got older

Have fun! There's no right or wrong way to share a story – as long as you and your child are having fun. Don't be afraid to act out situations or use funny voices... your little ones will love it!

As your child gets older don't stop sharing books together

Read yourself! It doesn't matter what it is – pick up a newspaper or magazine, take a look at a cookery book, read a computer manual, enjoy some poetry or dive into a romance or detective novel. And get your children to join in – if you're cooking, could they read the recipe? If you're watching TV, can they read out the listings?

Give books as presents. And encourage your children and their friends to swap books with each other – it'll give them a chance to read new stories, and get them all talking about what they're reading.

Visit the local library together. It's always fun choosing new books to read, and keep an eye out for special author events at the library or local bookshops – children love meeting their favourite authors. Jacqueline Wilson and Anthony Horowitz always have signing queues that are miles long!

Encourage children to carry a book at all times. That way, they'll never be bored (this is something you can do, too!)

Have a family bookshelf. If you can, have bookshelves in your children's bedrooms, too.

Keep reading together. Just because your children are older, it doesn't mean you have to stop sharing stories – perhaps you could try the Harry Potter series or *A Series of Unfortunate Events*.

At school we often find that if we sit down either outside or inside with a book we will have a gaggle of children all eager to hear the story and join in with the retelling. Children absolutely love the magic of stories and the places it takes them.

There are some amazing books out there, below is a selection recommended by the Book Trust. Classics written by authors such as Julia Donaldson, The Ahlbergs, Michael Rosen, Eric Carle, Oliver Jeffers to name but a few, will give your children

We are representing our own experiences through play by caring for the babies and one another, using a lot of bandages in the process!

We are talking about how our Mummies and Daddies help us and the special jobs they do.



quality texts. Stories based on TV characters or Disney films have their place in a balanced reading diet, but the higher quality books will offer opportunities to develop the skills described above.

Here are some new books to look out for,

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/booklists/1/100-best-0-5/>



Exciting News

We are very excited about our expansion into the former registry office next door to the nursery school. The contractors are working incredibly hard to complete this project by early April! This space will be used for the 2 year old children's indoor classroom, the office will be moving over to the new building and the staffroom.

We will be having a grand launch when it is finished, details to follow.

Any questions, queries or concerns do get in contact.

**Best wishes,
Natalie**

Snack Time

Healthy snacks are the best!

This year we will be having a shared snack. We are asking parents and carers to bring in donations of fruit, vegetables, crackers, cheese etc to share with their key group, each week. The children will be helping to prepare the snack and will be pouring their own water and milk. This all helps with fine motor development, self regulation and independence. We ask parents to avoid sending in any foods containing **nuts or sesame seeds** in order to maintain a safe environment for children with allergies. Please remember that small fruits such as grapes and cherry tomatoes need cutting in order to avoid choking.

We enjoy celebrating the children's birthdays at Nursery. If you would like to bring in a cake for the children to share that would be lovely but please do not feel that you have to. Please avoid bringing in sweets, chocolate and no banners or balloons as this can cause disruption.



Our core book this term is The 3 Little Pigs, the children are enjoying the enlivening storytelling using props, they especially like using the balloon pump to 'huff and puff' the straw and stick houses down!



Healthy Snacks for Kids

**NO NUTS
NO SESAME
SEEDS**



Staff at Wheatley Nursery School

Head Teacher - Natalie Wilson

Teacher - Judy Whittingham

Special Educational Needs Coordinator- Natalie Wilson

Early Years Support Workers

Laura Ashmore

Beth Ind

Anna Brand

Louise Noble (Little Windmills)

Lucy Sheldon -Moncur (Little Windmills)

Amanda Lyne (Little Windmills)

Teaching Assistants

Sharon Butterfield

Sharon Slatter

Kayleigh Collins

Julie O'Day

Amber Hill

Apprentice - Daisy Pinkney

Forest School After School Leader - Sophie Naish

Administrator - Anna Harries

Wheatley Nursery School Website:

www.wheatleynurseryschool.org.

Our Facebook Page is working well, please like us by searching Wheatley Nursery School.



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