

Newsletter week commencing 23rd June 2014

Pre-school and Toddlers



The week commenced with the pre-schoolers discussing their weekend activities which led to a discussion on the World Cup football games. With much verve, the children discussed 'goals' and 'penalty shoot-outs' as well as the football team they supported. Our toddlers, after having enjoyed a tea party with friends in the role play home corner, then went on to play with our 'small world' animals and dry pasta shells. Some of the children made a bed of pasta for the animals to sleep on while others fed the pasta to the animals.



On Tuesday the pre-schoolers were put to the test of recognising their name cards once again while our toddlers were read the book 'Your World, My World'. Later in the morning, the pre-schoolers enjoyed building with wooden blocks while our toddlers pieced together a variety of peg puzzles. Both activities ensure the use of fine motor skills while also using problem solving skills. For arithmetic and mathematic skills, our pre-schoolers sorted through a variety of shapes counting the

number of sides of some shapes as well as counting the number of identical shapes and grouping them accordingly. They also discussed the different colours of the shapes.



Continuing the theme of world music our toddlers made their very own musical instruments from old toilet roll tubes!



On Wednesday, after morning story time, the pre-schoolers were presented with letter flashcards to enhance their phonetic letter sound recognition which will aid them in blending letters together as they learn to read. The toddlers, after having looked for 'Anthony Ant' once again, learnt greetings in different languages including French, Spanish, Portuguese and Polish. Out in the garden the children were keen to get on their toy telephones with their note pads as they role-played conversations they often hear others having! Later in the afternoon, the children made marks on paper as they continue their early literacy development.



It was soon on to expressive art and design as the children teamed together to build a playhouse out of a cardboard box. This proved to be a perfect opportunity to discuss the different rooms and items we have in our homes.



On Thursday, the pre-schoolers commenced their day discussing what they enjoy doing most at nursery and home. They talked about enjoying being in the garden which bought about ideas from the children about how we can utilise our large outdoor spaces. Amongst other activities; story time, playing catch and football were high up on the list! Our toddlers, after singing the 'Hello' song, were read the book 'Penguin'. Later in the day, the children role played in the home corner as well as using their imagination as they created their very own car garage, fixing imaginary cars with broken tyres!



With the improvement in the weather, the children have been making extensive use of the garden, having races, chasing butterflies and playing hide and seek.



On Friday, it was that time again to discuss what weekend plans everybody had after which the children decided to come up in front of the group individually and sing their favourite nursery rhyme. The main activity of the day was completing the playhouse by adding furniture and toy people. This brought about much excitement, with the children using their imagination of what the family of people would be doing in their beautiful new home.

Babies

On Monday, the babies pointed at objects in books at morning circle time. This was followed by making marks on the chalk board and playing with sand in the tray using different moulds to create an array of shapes. In the afternoon, the babies were out in the garden singing nursery rhymes along with playing musical instruments.



On Tuesday, the babies were 'read to' by our in house puppets. They especially loved the book 'The Gruffalo' and always get excited at the mention of 'knobbly knees' and 'crumble'. The activity of the day was shaving foam with sea animals which, as you can imagine, the babies loved getting messy with!



On Wednesday, the babies were presented with flashcards in order to get them recognising different colours and letters and how they sound. Additional activities in the day included play cooking and also using the number counters, as well as soft foam blocks, to assist in basic counting skills from 1 to 5. In the garden, the babies enjoyed kicking a ball to one another but it wasn't long before they were enticed by the bikes and trikes!

Rhyme time began the day on Thursday as we sang all our favourite rhymes including 'Wind the Bobbin Up' and 'Heads, shoulders, knees and toes'. The big activity of the day included playing with cornflakes and cars. Some of the babies crunched their cars through the cornflakes, while others sifted through handfuls of cornflakes and crunched them in their hands into smaller crumbs.