



Longleaze Pre-School & Nursery

Term 3 – January 2020

Welcome back - wishing you a healthy and prosperous New Year! Welcome also to our new families, if at any time you have any questions, worries or concerns please do not hesitate to speak to either myself or any member of **Our Team** (Emma - Manager, Tracey J - deputy, Abbie - room leader Seal, Ali, Alison, Beth - SENCO, Caroline, Catherine - room leader Llewellyn, Hayley - room leader Glenton, Lorraine, Sharna, Victoria and Claire, who joins our team this term). Also I'd like to take this opportunity to wish Colette the best of luck, as she sadly leaves our setting to work in a provision much closer to where she lives and her children's school.

We recognise and value that as parents you are the main educators in your child's life, and most knowledgeable about them, we would appreciate any ideas or contributions you may have and welcome you to be as involved in your child's learning as you can.

Thank you to everyone that supported us last term. A huge thank you to the BP Garage, Best One and the Red Lion for their continued support. I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank our new committee and our fantastic fundraising team! We raised £414.15 at our Christmas Nativity and £153.90 on Christmas Lights night, a warm thank you to those who bared the elements with us, it was a chilly evening, but lovely to see everyone who supported us!

Christmas performance We hope you enjoyed our Christmas Performance - 'THE GREATEST SNOWMAN' I'm sure you will agree the children were FANTASTIC!!!! How amazing for them to have the confidence to be on the stage at such a young age!!!! All of the costumes were excellent - thank you for all your efforts and for your support.

A big thank you to our team for all their hard work to make these events happen and a special thank you to Barbara, Laura, Leanne, Debbie, Kirsty, Esther and Sarah. ☺

Christmas Parties also went well. All the children seemed to really enjoy themselves. Having fun with party games in Seal building, a Christmas snack and pass the parcel in Glenton, bubbles and a disco in Llewellyn, and a super visit to our fantastic Father Christmas in our little grotto. Thank you to all the staff for making it a great experience for the children - and to FC for his continued commitment to dropping in to visit at a very busy time! ☺

OUR NEXT COMMITTEE / FRIENDS OF LONGLEAZE PRESCHOOL MEETING is on 29th January 7.30pm at The Angel, High Street, RWB. All are welcome, the meetings are very informal, and a great way to meet other parents as well as being involved in ensuring your child has the best learning environment possible.

Promoting independence! Please help us to help your child develop their independence, particularly with their self-care skills. You can help by making sure their shoes and clothes are manageable for them to attempt to take off and put on by themselves. We are currently encouraging our children to change into slippers while inside. Please make sure all your child's items are named - as they generally do not remember whose is whose! (and neither do we! ☺)

Don't forget to keep an eye on our website and our facebook page.

www.longleazepreschoolandnursery.co.uk

Friends of Longleaze Preschool And Nursery

TOPIC - After specifically discussing with the children what they were interested in and would like to find out and learn about, observing their fascinations and interests in play - our theme this term on which to base our adult led planned learning is 'Frozen'.

If you feel there is anything that your child is particularly interested in please feel free to speak to their keyworker, and we will try to incorporate this into our play and learning.

At the beginning of each pre -school session and near the end of our nursery sessions, we have register and circle time where we introduce '**Show and Tell**'. The children are encouraged to bring in something from home -

preferably linked to the topic, or to share news with the group. We aim to concentrate on our listening skills and respecting each other, taking turns and valuing what we all say.

We want to give the children the confidence to use their 'voice' and also to learn to respect and value their peers. **Our focused activities** are designed for all ages and levels of development; however our pre-school children are particularly encouraged to participate, although some of the activities are specifically designed for our younger children.

Our adult led activities are based around the areas of learning in the EYFS. All areas of learning and development are important and inter-connected.

Some of the activities we will be offering this term include;

Personal, social and emotional development;

'Self - Confidence and Self-Awareness': Pick a Stick from Olaf, using Olaf's sticks to take turns answering questions and talking about their own abilities in positive terms; BLAST activities at circle time to encourage self-confidence.

'Managing Feelings and Behaviour': Breathing exercises; Do you Want to Build a Snowman? - working as a team to build their own Olaf: making a Valentine card / Heart, talking about people who are special to us.

Physical Development;

'Moving and Handling': Do you want to build a Snowman? - using exciting and unusual resources to encourage the children to develop their pencil skills; Frosty sandy Writing - using one handed tools and beginning to copy some letters from their name, to also make connections between the sounds they can hear in their names and the letters that represent those sounds.

'Health and Self-Care': Frozen Shape Run - observing the effects of exercise on our bodies as we play this fun shape game! And encouraging self - care skills in our daily routine such as handwashing and toileting awareness and confidence.

The Fundamental Movement Skills that we will be looking at will be 'SKIPPING' and 'LINE / BEAM WALK'. Twice a week we have PE sessions (School starter children) in the school hall - MONDAY AND WEDNESDAY MORNINGS, we encourage the children to change into a simple PE kit - shorts and T-shirt, promoting their independence and self-care. Please ensure that all PE kit is labelled! They do not need any special footwear as we do PE in bare feet.

Communication and Language;

'Understanding': Frozen Tuff Tray - showing an understanding of prepositions as they play in the snow with the wintry animals; Action Words - using Frozen character action cards - encouraging the children to demonstrate their understanding of different action words.

'Speaking': Picture Scenes - using talk to connect ideas, explain what is happening and anticipate what might happen next - using the pictures to prompt discussion; What's In The Box? Feeling and describing what's in the frozen box, using descriptive language to describe what they can feel.

Letters and Sounds -for more information regarding the Letters and Sounds activities we will be doing each week, see our 'quick checker' below.

Literacy;

'Reading': Snowman rhyming puzzle - enjoying rhyming activities; we also take every opportunity to share our favourite books, exploring stories in a variety of ways including telling and acting out our own.

'Writing': Frozen Chalk Sensory Writing - Frozen chalk snowflakes - giving meaning to marks as they draw and paint: Frozen Dust - writing their names in glittery snow!

Mathematics;

'Numbers': using Number Mitten Mats, cotton balls and tweezers to become more familiar with numbers and quantities; enjoying number activities as part of our daily routine.

'Shape, Space and Measure': Drink with Olaf - exploring filling and emptying various containers, using specific mathematical language, and beginning to order the cups by capacity: Frozen puzzles - noticing shapes and patterns in the themed puzzles.

Understanding the World;

'The World': Exploring Igloos - looking at similarities and differences between different habitats: Magic Sprinkles - investigating ice and what happens when various materials are added to it? For example; salt will make fissures in the ice, which the paint will fill, creating spectacular channels.

'Technology': Get Sven through the Forest to Rescue Elsa, using the Beebot, Programming the Beebot to manoeuvre along the mat to safely rescue Elsa.

Expressive Arts and Design;

'Exploring and Using Media and Materials': Textured Winter Collage- beginning to be interested in and describe the texture of things using a selection of materials; Exploring Mixing Colours, using various paints and other materials to change and make new colours.

'Being Imaginative': - Frozen Tuff Tray - begin to make believe by pretending - using the puppets and Frozen characters to support their imaginary play.

QUICK CHECKER AND DIARY DATES

WEEK ONE - 6th - 10th Jan

Letters and Sounds Activities; Aspect 4 - rhythm and rhyme - Tuning into sounds - the main purpose is to experience and appreciate rhythm and rhyme and to develop awareness of rhythm and rhyme in speech; Rhyming Silly Soup.

Shared home learning -the room bears and book packs will begin to go home.

Children to bring anything in to help them create a holiday / Christmas mood board.

WEEK TWO -13th-17th Jan

Letters and Sounds activity; Aspect 4 - rhythm and rhyme - Tuning into sounds - the main purpose is to experience and appreciate rhythm and rhyme and to develop awareness of rhythm and rhyme in speech; Rhyming books and Rhyming Bingo.

Any materials that you would like to upcycle that we could use for our 'Textured Winter Collages' would be gratefully received.

WEEK THREE - 20th -24th Jan

Letters and Sounds activity; aspect 5 - Alliteration - tuning into sounds - the main purpose is to develop understanding of alliteration; I spy Names.

25th January - Chinese New Year - year of the Rat!

WEEK FOUR - 27th Jan -31st Jan

Letters and Sounds activity; aspect 5 - Alliteration - tuning into sounds - the main purpose is to develop understanding of alliteration. Bertha goes to the Zoo

VALENTINES CRAFT COMPETITION - Please begin to make a Valentines Heart with your child, using a variety of media and materials. There will be a small prize for the most creative and the wackiest! £1 per entry - monies raised will go towards mud kitchens in our outside area.

29th January - Wednesday 7.30pm Committee / friends of Longleaze Meeting at The Angel Hotel, High St RWB - ALL WELCOME!!

WEEK FIVE - 3rd Feb - 7th Feb

Letters and Sounds activity; Aspect 5 Alliteration - listening and remembering sounds - the main purpose is to listen to the sounds at the beginning of words and hear the differences between them; Tony the Train's busy day.

WEEK SIX - 10th - 14th Feb

Letters and Sounds activities; Aspect 4 - rhythm and rhyme - Tuning into sounds - the main purpose is to experience and appreciate rhythm and rhyme and to develop awareness of rhythm and rhyme in speech; Rhyming Silly Soup.

Competition entries to be returned by Thursday 13th February to be judged at our Parent Partnership Afternoon.

13th February - Thursday 1pm - 2.45pm - come and join our Parent Partnership Valentine Fun Afternoon - more details to follow!

Valentine's Day - 14/02/19

LAST DAY OF TERM - FRIDAY 14TH FEBRUARY

BACK TO SCHOOL - MONDAY 24TH FEBRUARY

COMING SOON - OUR SPONSORED SQUIDGE! MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW IN TERM 4!



Thank you for taking the time to read this letter - please do not hesitate to speak to myself or a member of staff at any time if you have any worries, questions or concerns.





Talking Tip of the Term!

Buggy Chatter Does Matter!

(information from Swindon Borough Council)

Walking with your child in the buggy is an ideal time for you to talk to your child!

Young children need **face-to-face** communication to develop as sociable talkers and learners.

Research shows babies are more likely to **laugh** and also **sleep** when facing you. These are signs of **well-being** and **relaxation**.

Research shows....you are **twice as likely to talk to your child** when they are facing you.

When you talk, **your child is more likely to communicate** too.

But my child likes to see what's going on...

Children do want to look about and see the world, but it is more interesting and less frightening when it's described by you rather than whizzing past without any interpretation.

Facing your baby means you can:

- *make eye contact*
- *check their feelings*
- *give instant reassurance.*
- *point out things along the way*
- *notice what grabs your child's attention and respond.*

If your buggy doesn't allow you to face each other, make sure there are opportunities to **turn it round so your child can see and talk to you**, e.g. on the bus, waiting outside school.

