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JANUARY 2012 NEWSLETTER

WELCOME!

Happy New Year to you all. I do hope you had a lovely holiday and are ready for another term with us!

News

Well, I'm not sure it is possible for there to be anyone left who does not know our fabulous news; but just in case there is: following our recent Ofsted Inspection in December we were awarded an 'Outstanding' rating. An Outstanding rating, according to Ofsted, 'applies to exceptional provision which is way above the norm. The standard of care is exemplary. It is highly effective at making sure that children make significant progress towards the early learning goals - given their starting points. Overall, the practice is worth disseminating beyond the setting. Inspectors make one or possible two recommendation/s to bring about minor improvement. '

We will be holding a party to celebrate this great news with you all on **Wednesday**

18th April starting 3.10pm in the Jubilee Hall. More details to follow, but for now, please save the date as we would love you to be there!

Drop-in Sessions

We will be putting up some drop-in session dates on the Parents' Board shortly. Drop-in sessions provide an opportunity for you to see what goes on at Nursery behind closed doors! You are welcome to come for part of a session or all of a session; and younger siblings are welcome as long as they remain your responsibility for the duration of your visit. This is a fantastic opportunity to shed some light on what goes on, if you have a child whose standard answer to 'What did you do at Nursery today?' is 'Can't remember!' Or as my little boy tells me when I ask him what he did at Nursery every day, ' It was tidy up time!' (Why then is Tidy Up Time such an alien concept to him at home?!)

Records Of Achievement

Your child's Record Of Achievement will be given to you in early February for you to review and enjoy over the half term period. There will also be a questionnaire in the folder, for you to give some feedback on the Nursery. We are always keen to hear your views and improve, so please do take the time to fill this in for us.

Ideas Book

We are launching a new idea- the Ideas Book! This will be a book (no less!) hanging up on the Parents' Board (by the Nursery doorbell), where you can put any suggestions, ideas, improvements, general questions or things you would be interested to know.. Obviously, this does not (and should not) take away from asking any queries or questions directly to one of the staff or Committee members; but is an opportunity for you to write down any bright ideas, or idle questions that have come to mind and that you do not feel warrant immediate staff attention!

More of or less of?

We are always looking at ways of encouraging the children to evaluate the activities they take part in at Nursery, as a way of helping us plan the best future activities for them. Staff came up with a great idea for keeping track of/sharing children's achievements ... an "achievement wall", where we display children's achievements, be it the first time they put on their coat themselves or write their own name etc etc. Watch this space!

Also please can you use your Observation Books or tell staff directly if your child shares with you activities that they particularly enjoyed, found challenging, found boring, or disliked etc at Nursery. This information is really valuable to us in

helping us create the best possible learning environment for your child.

Events

Spring Cafe

On **Wednesday 7th March**, we will have our Spring Café from **3-5pm** where we will have a great meal deal and lots of fun activities for children of all ages. Keep an eye out for our ads which will be appearing around the Village in due course and please book the date in your diary now!

Pamper Evening

We will be holding our **Pamper Evening on Wednesday 28th March** – back by public demand! Again, more details to follow of the therapies and stalls available, but please do put the date in your diaries.

Staff News

Well, we had some great interest in our Nursery Assistant roles that were advertised and I am pleased to announce that our very own Nursery Mums: Catriona Field and Ange Cutche have been successfully appointed to the roles. Catriona will be working Thursday afternoons and Ange will be working Thursday mornings. We wish them every success in their new roles.

School Uniform

If you have any Seer Green CE School uniform that your child/ren have outgrown and that you would be willing to donate to Nursery, please pass it on to one of the staff as we would like to add these items to our Nursery dressing up box for Summer Term. Thanks!

Term Dates

Spring half term holidays starts: w/c Monday 13th February 2012

Spring Term resumes: Monday 20th February 2012.

Wishing you all a great start to the New Year.



Lynsey, Chair.