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Newsletter March 2017

Dear Parents, Carers and All,

Here we are already going into March - February flew past!! A busy few weeks ahead leading up to the Easter holidays at the end of March.

At Bridgerule we would like to welcome Harper, Hugo and Sofie.



Last month the children at Bridgerule have enjoyed lots of learning around animals including creating our animal safari, looking after them at the vets, moving like animals and discussing our own pets. Our bird count week went well with lots of nest building exploring the available resources. Both settings enjoyed some Chinese food tasting.

Food seems to be a bit of a theme at pre school as pancakes have been high on the agenda last week with practising throwing (pancake toss with bean bags), exploring ingredients and resources for making them, shape focus on circles and of course lots of eating. Keep an eye on our tadpoles and hopefully some planting and growing in the next few weeks.

Last half term Bradford children were investigating different occupations so Thank you to those of you who sent in pictures of you or a family member at work.

We have had a lovely start to the second half of the Spring Term exploring construction. This has been a great topic for the children, with them showing lots of interest. Our current builder's yard is very popular and the children are often building towers and creating structures whilst using their imaginations. We've explored shapes, making arrangements using them and completing puzzles. We've also used our number skills to match quantities and numerals!

Over the next few weeks we will continue with construction but will also be looking at road safety.



Lets Talk More Everywhere

Back in November we put some information into the newsletter about the 'Let's Talk More' programme which is run through the Health visiting team and the children centre. They have now introduced 'Let's Talk More Everywhere' which is trying to spread the information wider among settings too. Each month there is going to be a new strategy to work on to encourage the communication development of your children. Please keep a look out in each setting for each month's strategy so that you can work with your children at home. If you have any questions about this or would like some support please speak to a member of staff.

Non-attendance

If your child is not going to be attending their usual session at pre-school please could you ensure that you inform the pre-school staff as early as possible either by phone call, text or a verbal message. The staff arrange activities around times of children attending so it is important to the smooth running of the day that they know who is going to be in.

Bridgerule can be contacted on 07879 955874 and Bradford on 07792501476

Outside

At Bradford we have just bought a new mud kitchen which we absolutely love. At both settings we are keen to develop our outside play area more as there is so much learning to be had and many of the children prefer to play outside. Please make sure your child comes to pre-school equipped for going outside come rain or shine. Wellies, hats, gloves, coats and waterproofs if they have any!

If you have any fun ideas for our outside area, we would love to hear about them. Also if you have any wicker baskets, small pebbles, sticks or log slices at home that you no longer want - we would be very grateful for them. Many thanks.

2nd March 2017-Bradford

We've had a great day celebrating world book day with the children coming to pre-school dressed as characters from their favourite books. I'm sure you'd agree that they all looked fantastic!

In the afternoon a local author Matt Bond came in to read his book Harry Horsepower. We sat with Class 1 from the school and enjoyed listening to it. We have also been reading this book at pre-school this week.

Staffing

As some of you may or may not know, Lucy is back from New Zealand which is fantastic but unfortunately she can no longer work the two days that she has previously. This has been a difficult situation as we are keen to have consistency for the children and parents. But due to advertising for Fee's maternity cover also, we have had a meeting and discussed the plan for the future and it is as follows.

Lucy will be working every Tuesday, Hayley will continue to work every Wednesday and Sarah will be working every Thursday for the rest of the academic year. The children are used to Sarah now as she covers often so we feel this will be the best and most settled plan for the near future.

As of September Lucy will sadly be stepping down due to other commitments, including expanding her forest school at her forestry. In the Summer term we will then begin advertising for a play assistant for 2 days a week to work alongside Hayley and the play leader covering Fee's maternity leave.

Dates for your Diary

Bags 2 School collection - 14th March - please encourage friends and family to have a sort out!!!!
Bridgerule - Friday 24th March - Tea and cake afternoon at pre-school from 2.30pm all welcome.
Bradford- Tuesday 21st March- We are hoping to go on a trip to Lucy's forest school. Details to follow.
Easter Holidays - 1st -17th April (Bridgerule last day 31st March, Bradford last day 30th March).

As always any questions, please speak to a member of staff.

Regards
Pre-school Team