

Staff Update

We would like to welcome Miss Caroline Airth to the Jack and Jill team. Caroline started with us on Monday and will be working in the Ark and the Little Ark. Caroline has lots of experience and previously worked at a SEND setting in Bristol.



Dates to remember:



Every Child Needs Christmas Deadline

Thursday 5th December

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Christmas Jumper Week

9-13th December

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Ark Christmas Performances

Wednesday 11th December 2.15pm

Thursday 12th December 11am

St Monicas – Friday 13th December 2pm

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Little Ark Christmas Concerts

Tuesday 10th December 3.45pm

Thursday 12th December 3.45pm

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Nest Christmas Party

Monday 16th December 4.45pm

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End of Term

Friday 20th December

Nest

In the Nest this week we have been busy building towers with stacking rattles and building blocks, the children have been working together to build them very high! We also explored frozen sweetcorn in ice, the children used big spoons to hit the ice which they found really fun so we spent lots of time hitting it to see what noises we could make. We have also enjoyed singing and dancing to music on our iPod.

Theme: Autumn **Signs:** Coat, shoes **Song:** Autumn Song

Little Ark

“The leaves on the trees are falling down, all through the town”. We have been busy learning about Autumn, making leaf crowns, leaf painting and outside we have been sweeping the leaves into a pile and using our hands to put them in the bucket. We had fun exploring ‘Gelli Baff’, it was “cold”, “wobbly” and very messy! This week the children have been spontaneously bursting into song, making their own up sometimes, “let’s get married, let’s get married everyone!” and also learning their Christmas songs. It was very kind of some of the children to help me write the newsletter this week.

Theme: Singing **Sign:** Singing **Sound:** Nn

Ark

This week our theme has been ‘shapes’ and we have been very impressed with the children’s knowledge – “it’s an octagon, it’s got 8 sides”. The children have enjoyed making models with the magnetic shapes and took turns in a small group playing shape snap. They also really enjoyed looking around the pre-school for shapes in the environment – “the mirror is an oval!”. Next week we will be starting to practice for our Christmas Concerts and writing letters to Father Christmas, ho ho ho!

Theme: Christmas Concert

Questionnaire Feedback

Thank you to all of you who responded to our survey. We were delighted with all the positive feedback. Below I have addressed the issues that arose from the additional comments that were left.

- Please check the ‘**What we have done today**’ boards outside each room which give a summary of the main activities of the day. You can use these to begin a conversation with your child.
- Please check your **child’s drawer** regularly. In it you will find your child’s learning diary that you can take home at any time and artwork that they have produced during the week.
- Please read this **newsletter!** Every week it summarises the main activities and keeps you updated with ‘dates to remember’.
- Please ask your **key carer** or the **room lead** any questions you may have. If they can’t speak to you about it then they will always be happy to arrange an appointment at another time.
- We will be doing some more training on ‘feedback at pick up time’ in our January training session.
- We aren’t planning to open any earlier than 8am. The main reason for this is that our full-time staff already work 10 hours per day. In order to maintain consistency for the children we don’t want a changeover of staff part way through the day. We will of course continue to review this regularly.

