

Big Nursery Newsletter

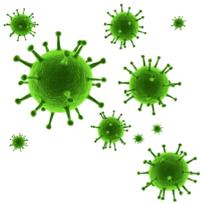
March 2020



Term dates

All dates are under review

Germs



Can we remind children to continue to cough and sneeze into their elbow to help prevent germs spreading.



Family Support advice for all families in Warwickshire

For families, children and young people 0-19 years old, or 0-25 years with additional needs

Duty Line 01926 412412
9am – 4pm Monday – Friday



Internet Safety

Swiggle is a search engine designed to provide a safer environment for children taking their first steps on the road to safe online searching. It is powered by Google Custom Search and the results are filtered using Google SafeSearch and educational resources.

Whilst Swiggle is a friendly search engine for children aimed at Key Stage 2, your younger children will have fun learning to search the internet using safe filtering tools with you!

<https://swiggle.org.uk/>



Swiggle[®]
CHILD FRIENDLY SEARCH

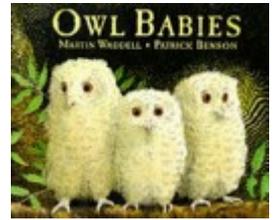
Food Bank Vouchers

If families need a food bank voucher these can be issued by Mrs Kindred.



TEACHING AND LEARNING

The children have recently enjoyed literacy and maths work linked to one of their favourite stories: 'Owl Babies'. The 'Owl Babies' area in the classroom has provided a real 'awe and wonder' area for the children to capture their interest, imagination and story -telling involvement. It has supported children to name the characters in the story and join in with familiar words and repeated refrains from the book, as they retold or acted out key events from the story. Makaton signs for the story have been shared with the children to help support their language skills (see Makaton section of the February newsletter). During mathematical work the children have been introduced to size vocabulary and are enjoying ordering objects by size.



Thank you to all the families who joined us for the library visits on World Book Day.



Feedback from parents and children have indicated that this was a great success enjoyed by all. We hope that you will continue to share books together with your child at home.

During Chatter Matters week the children enjoyed celebrating the theme 'bear with me – share with me.' We learnt lots of new bear related rhymes and listened to lots of bear stories including 'Goldilocks and the 3 Bears'. The children particularly enjoyed having a teddy bears picnic and also making porridge to eat at the snack table.



The children had lots of fun at the Sponsored Dance, as they actively explored different ways of physically moving to the music. We had a range of current and traditional favourite music genres and also used Tai Chi as a cool down at the end of the session.



We are currently prioritising keeping ourselves and others safe and healthy at Nursery. We are teaching and supervising children to wash their hands appropriately. The children are encouraged to sneeze into their elbows and to talk about how they are feeling.

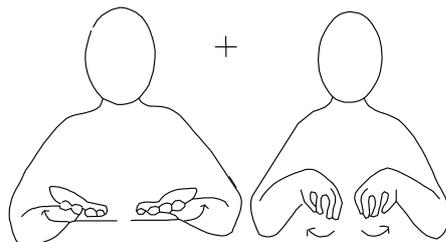
British Values - Democracy

Democracy is where everyone is treated equally and has equal rights. At Nursery we support children with their personal, social and emotional development by giving them opportunities to develop their self-confidence and self-awareness. Children are encouraged to express their views and value the opinions and ideas of others. Through 'In the Moment Planning' we encourage children to make choices and decisions about their learning and what they would like to explore. Teaching supports taking turns, sharing, collaborating and making decisions together. Adults also give children opportunities to develop enquiring minds by encouraging them to ask questions and to talk about their feelings.

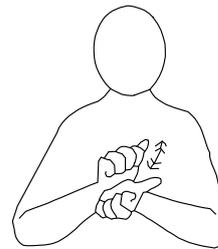
Makaton signs of the Month - March

We are proud to say we
are Makaton friendly

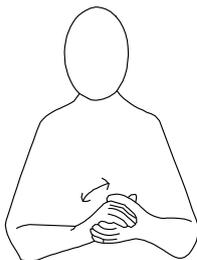
We will be helping children to communicate
through Makaton signs and spoken language.



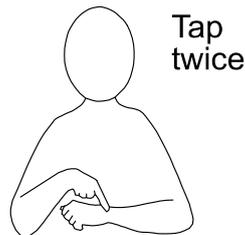
Washbasin



Dirty



Wash



Time



Clean

Manage Anxiety & Stress with Coronavirus

The outbreak of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) may be stressful for people. Fear and anxiety about a disease can be overwhelming and cause strong emotions in adults and children. Coping with stress will make you, the people you care about, and your community stronger.

Everyone reacts differently to stressful situations.

How you respond to the outbreak can depend on your background, the things that make you different from other people, and the community you live in.



Stress during an infectious disease outbreak can include

- * Fear and worry about your own health and the health of your loved ones
- * Changes in sleep or eating patterns
- * Difficulty sleeping or concentrating
- * Worsening of chronic health problems
- * Increased use of alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs
- * Taking care of yourself, your friends, and your family can help you cope with stress.
- * Helping others cope with their stress can also make your community stronger.

Things you can do to support yourself

- * Take breaks from watching, reading, or listening to news stories, including social media. Hearing about the pandemic repeatedly can be upsetting.
- * Take care of your body. Take deep breaths, stretch, or meditate. Try to eat healthy, well-balanced meals, exercise regularly, get plenty of sleep, and avoid alcohol and drugs.
- * Make time to unwind. Try to do some other activities you enjoy.
- * Connect with others. Talk with people you trust about your concerns and how you are feeling.

Call your healthcare provider if stress gets in the way of your daily activities for several days in a row.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/managing-stress-anxiety.html>

Below are some suggestions on how to keep your children entertained.

Activities to help keep children entertained

Family Movie Day (or Night)

What's better than cuddling up with your children, a blanket and a coffee table full of snacks for a family movie night? Not much. Children love the opportunity to eat munchies and watch a full-length movie.



Family Game Day



If you'd rather your family time was spent sans screen, try a [classic board game](#). Whether it's snakes and ladders, jigsaws or Pop Up games such as Hungry Hippo, discover all those games hiding in the cupboard.

Make a Blanket Den

All toys are better when they're inside a blanket den, so help your children construct their own den in the living room or bedroom.



Make a Rain Stick

If you're feeling crafty, gather up a paper towel tube, crayons, tinfoil, masking tape, dry rice and a long pipe cleaner. Have your child colour and decorate the paper towel tube. Next, fasten tinfoil to one end with masking tape. Coil the pipe cleaner and fit it into the tube, along with the rice. Secure the other end of the tube with tinfoil and tape. Your child's rain stick is now ready to make soothing rain sounds!



Doggy Scavenger Hunt

If you happen to have a furry friend in your family, include him in your rainy day adventures. Hide doggy treats in puppy-friendly places, and see if Fido can sniff out all his hidden prizes. Time his progress and see if he can beat his record on the next rainy-day scavenger hunt.



Cook Together

As long as the children are indoors, why not spend the day together making a family-favourite recipe? Make cooking fun with your assistant chiefs by assigning responsibilities. Not only will the children feel important and useful, they'll also be proud they helped make something. Plus, you get to get some cooking done for the week!



Play Hide and Seek

Use the whole house and get creative with the rules of the game. For example, children could name all the colours or shapes whilst others hide or simply count to ten.

Your children won't be too difficult to find. Usually they pop out of their hiding spots as soon you enter the room. (Play it up a bit and pretend they are impossible to find.)



Activities to help keep children entertained continued

Have a Dance Party

Help release some of their seemingly endless energy with some music. Dancing around the house will help you burn off pent-up energy and get some exercise. Try pop and dance songs (child friendly), too.



Read a Good Book



Cuddle up in a blanket with her favourite book and read together. Take turns reading, or have them read to you to keep them focused and interested.

Play Charades

This is another great way to get the wiggles out, and have some laughs. If you don't know how to play, use the hyperlink below. Here are some ideas.....

-  Brushing teeth
-  Building a sandcastle
-  Dancing
-  Driving a car
-  Opening a gift
-  Playing baseball
-  Shoveling snow
-  Swimming
-  Skateboarding
-  Tying a shoe
-  Walking a dog
-  Yoga



<https://grammar.yourdictionary.com/games-puzzles-and-worksheets/charades-word-lists-kids.html>

<https://www.familyeducation.com/fun/indoor-activities/top-10-rainy-day-activities>