



NEWSLETTER

We have had a number of new children and families join the setting recently and we would like to welcome them into the Smart Kids community.

This month in babies the children have been looking at first word books to see if they are able to recognise and label objects. Some of the children have also been looking at animals names and the sounds the animals make.



The babies really liked painting with the cars, practitioners made ramps, and the children enjoyed exploring the different marks they were able to make. As an addition to this we have been body painting with the children this enabled the children to make marks with their fingers and make footprints whilst stamping.

The baby room children have enjoyed exploring in the big garden, having a go on the slide, bikes and larger pieces of equipment as well as developing their sandcastle making skills in the big sand pit.



The children have been meeting the newly hatched butterflies, they were having a close look at them and learning how they must be careful and gently when handling them.

We have enjoyed reading the all about me books with the children, this has allowed them to point to and label their special people, and talk about those people who are important to them.

Lastly we have been encouraging the children to find their different body parts, as this is one of the key aspects of learning within the EYFS.

We have been singing:

Head and shoulders knees and toes

Knees and toes

Head and shoulders knees and toes

Knees and toes

And eyes and ears

And mouth and nose

Head and shoulders knees and toes

Knees and toes

How to help at home

- Sing along and practise head shoulders knees and toes
- Provide nursery with milestone information EyLog

The Two's Room

The children in Two's have been exploring growing and nature in a variety of ways, including looking at caterpillar life cycles. We were very excited to see how the caterpillars grew from chrysalises and emerged into butterflies.



The children have been planting recently, with carrots, potatoes and peas all now being carefully cared for within the garden. The children are enjoying watching the strawberry plants as they have developed flowers and now are able to see the strawberry beginning to grow in the centre of the flower.



The practitioners have made sensory frogspawn for the children to explore from slime. The children have been investigating and playing with them whilst singing one of their favourite songs: *'Five Little Speckled Frogs'*.

Here are the words if you want to sing along at home:

Five little speckled frogs,
Sat on a speckled log,
Eating some most delicious bugs.
Yum yum!
One jumped into the pool,
Where it was nice and cool,
Then there were four speckled frogs.
Glub glub!

The song can also be found on <https://youtu.be/rn-Bm2Jy004> which has a lovely video and the tune to help with learning the song.

As always, one of the children's favourite topics within the Two's room is....bugs. Within the last few weeks the children have been exploring bugs in a variety of ways, including singing Incey Wincey and playing with the spiders and pipes in the water tray, exploring snail slime in some malleable trays and making their very own threaded spiders webs.



The children have also been enjoying the story '*We're Going on a Bear Hunt*'. Reading the story offers the children the chance to talk about different sounds and textures which we have explore within a sensory Bear Hunt activity in the garden.



How to Help at Home

- Read stories with repeated phrases, allowing gaps for the children to finish the repeated word/phrase.
- By singing '*5 Little Speckled Frogs*' or watch the video together.



The Two's and Pre-School children have been talking about their holiday experiences, some of which have been camping. To enhance this and support play, we have introduced a campsite into the nursery garden. The children also enjoyed a campfire when they were able to toast their own marshmallow for snack.

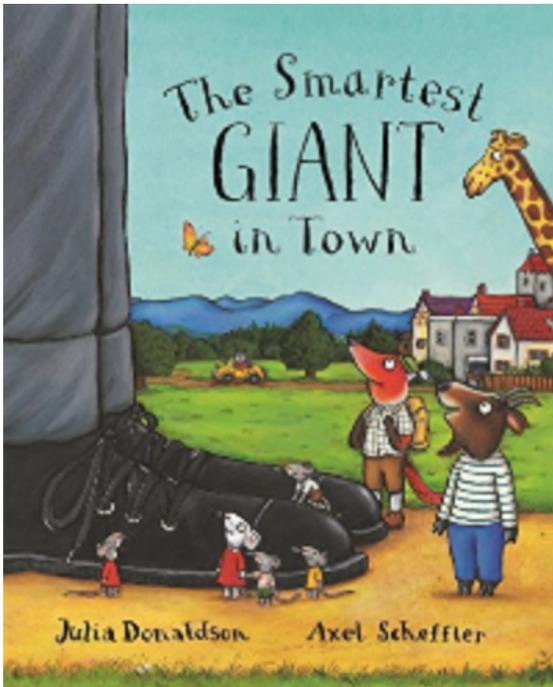


The Pre-School Room

The children have enjoyed learning about St George's Day, and listening to the story about the celebration. The children began by creating their own flags within the play dough. This then gripped the children's interest around knights and dragons and the children quickly decided to design and make their own swords and shields within the technology area.



Following the children's interest in knights and dragons they have then begun to explore this further - creating their own forts both inside and out. The children have been using a variety of large-scale materials, including crates, boxes, bricks and materials to create their own buildings.



Julia Donaldson's *'The Smartest Giant in Town'* is a wonderful story we have all been enjoying reading and role playing. Pre-School love the moral messages the story conveys: that it is not what you have but who you are and what you do that counts! This provides an important message, we have been helping the Pre-School children to learn to treat others how we want to be treated. During free play, the children have been given the opportunity to act out the story by wearing oversized clothing, and have been using the CD player to play the sound track alongside their play. This has also allowed the children to work together, talk about emotions, sequence events and re-tell the story in their own words.



This time of year brings the opportunity to talk about growing with the children within the Pre-School.

The children have been talking about changes over time as they look at the things they have been growing. They have also been telling the practitioners if they have been growing at home and have been learning about the very important uses of the different parts of the plants. Including the roots, for sucking up the water and the leaves for helping to make the plant food. As a part of this, the children have been making their own pictures which include these essential plant parts.

How to Help at Home

- Talk to children about a variety of celebrations and why they take place.
- Try some planting at home, and send us some pictures. We would love to see how the children are getting on and this will help with discussions at circle time.

Transitions to School

The Summer term is a busy one for supporting the children with their transitions to school. As a setting we support the children through discussions, role play and the introduction of a cafeteria-style lunch routine. To support the transition we complete an individual report which will be shared with you and your child's new teacher. In addition to this some schools also have the teachers visit the children within the nursery and invite the children into the school for taster sessions. We will inform you if the school is coming into nursery to see your

child, and likewise if you could inform us of any transition visits your child is having so we are able to talk to them about it.

Notice period for school leavers

As we are sure you can appreciate the Pre-School children leave at different times during the summer, some leaving in July and others attending during the Summer holidays. Therefore we would like to remind parents that you must give 4 weeks written notice of your child leaving the nursery, this will enable us to ensure we have everything ready for your child's last day at the setting.

Muddy Puddles week

The children had a fantastic week within the nursery celebrating Peppa Pig Muddy Puddles week for Save The Children UK. We would like to thank those who raised sponsor money. We were delighted with the amount raised which is going towards this worthy cause.

The grand total was £345.40

The Lancashire Evening Post have also celebrated our fantastic achievement as they have created an article within the education supplement printed on 17th May 2018



Sun Safety

May we please remind ALL parents to provide:

- A new bottle of sun cream for 2018 which is:

- Clearly labelled with your child's name and date provided
- Factor 50
- And a wide brimmed sun hat
- We also ask children wear full shoes and socks (no sandals or crocs)

Unfortunately, failure to comply with this will result in the child being unable to access the outdoor area. As a setting we have a duty of care to safeguard the children whilst in the setting and consider the above to be essential in order for the children to experience playing outdoors safely during the summer months.



Office Departure

It is with sadness that Lauren Caloe departed us from the office, recently. Lauren was a lovely, friendly member of staff and we all wish her the best of luck in her future career.

Any parent enquiries should in future be made to Mr Russell Hayes (russell@smarkids.org.uk), or directly to Mrs Hayes.

Policy of the month

Sun Care

[Sun Care Policy](#)

Please take a few minutes of your time to read the sun care policy above, this outlines the requirements from you to provide sun cream and what Smart Kids as a nursery will do to protect children when accessing the outdoors in hot weather.



Bags

We have an increasing number of children who have very large bags which we are finding difficult to store. The nursery has its own drawstring bags available to purchase for £5.50 which are an ideal size for everything your child needs to get them through the day.

Nursery Uniform

It is a requirement for all children over the age of 2 to wear the nursery Polo shirt and/or jumper. These are available to purchase from the setting. Please speak to a member of the team.

Price List

Polo Shirt: £8.50

Jumper: £10.50

Spare clothing

May we please request that each child brings a change of clothes within their nursery bag, this is in the event that they need a change, as unfortunately within the nursery we simply do not have the space or resources to hold clothing suitable for all children.

Door entry

May we please remind parents that on entry into or out of the setting you **MUST NOT** allow anyone else into the nursery by holding the door for them (even if you know them). We request this as the children's safety is of paramount importance and want to reduce the risk of an unauthorised person entering the nursery.

Birthday Cakes

As a setting we promote healthy eating and we are finding that we were receiving a huge amount of processed cakes which were full of sugar.

Therefore, we have made the decision to stop accepting birthday cakes for the children. However, the children will be supported in celebrating their birthday in

other ways. We have a birthday hat and throne, and as the children get older they will be supported in making their own birthday bun. Therefore their special day will still be celebrated within the nursery.



Diary Dates

Smart Kids is hosting an Open Fun Day on Saturday 9th June 10.30am - 2.30pm

Parents Evening Friday 22nd June

Pre-School Drama Presentation of Alice in Wonderland Wednesday 18th July

School Leavers Party Tuesday 17th July

Friday 20th July - Last day of term



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