

# FAMILY NEWS

December 2021



Dear Parents & Carers,

I hope you are all well. With the cold days certainly setting in, please can I ask for you to ensure that your child is brought into the nursery wearing appropriate clothing catered for the outdoor elements. As part of their learning, children are invited to engage in learning opportunities outside and in all weathers, so they are exposed to new and exciting learning opportunities.

## Pick Up Time

Please can I remind all parents who collect their children after their morning session that 1pm is pick up time. By not collecting your children at 1pm really puts a strain on the staff to children ratio. This also means we can not take our afternoon children until the morning children have been collected.

**From all the team at Ashington Day Nursery & pre-School, we would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and the happiest of New Years!**

## Dates for your diary

**4th December**  
Open Day (10am-2pm)

**10th December**  
Christmas Jumper Day

**13th-17th December**  
Festive Week

**27th-28th December**  
Nursery Closed

**3rd January 2022**  
Nursery Closed

## Staff holidays

**1st-3rd Dec** – Connor (Paternity Leave)

**2nd-7th Dec** – Daisy

**7th-9th Dec** – Steve (Chef)

**10th-13th Dec** – Joshua

**13th-21st Dec** – Kerrie

**15th-17th Dec** – Connor

**22nd-24th Dec** – Connor

**20th Dec-3rd Jan** – Anastasia



### Baby Snug

The Baby Snug were invited to create their own tea light holders using salt dough and paint in recognition of Diwali. To help create the tea lights, the children were invited to have a go at measuring the ingredients, stir, mix, and roll the dough before putting it into the oven to harden. Once dry they began building upon their little masterpieces. The paint provided a sensory experience for the children by mixing with brushes and also their fingers. This environment provided the children with opportunities of choice, independence, completing simple tasks, hand to eye coordination and building on their fine motor skills.

### Toddler Den

In the Toddler Den the children have also explored Bonfire night and the types of colours you may see when watching a display. The Toddler Den team built upon the children's interest by providing environments to create their own displays. From cardboard tubes, paintbrushes, and sponges to make different marks using their fine and gross motor skills.

During this time, they explored how to colour mix to create different colours as well as identifying the colours from memory. They have also explored sensory play which was based on an interest of a child who had recently experienced snow from a family vacation. The educators built upon this interest by creating their own very arctic circle with shaving foam and types of animals how hibernate there.

### Pre-School Study

Throughout November, the children were invited to explore Diwali (the festival of light). During this time, they discussed the history behind the Diwali festival with support of visual and listening aids. They created Rangoli patterns in sand where they added different materials including rice, flowers, and coloured sand. These experiences provide the children with opportunities to learn about different religious celebrations which are important in learning about the world around them. This teaches children to learn respect for others and to appreciate and understand differences in religions, beliefs, and culture.

The children were also invited to explore how fireworks are created whilst including the history behind Bonfire Night.

As part of this enabling environment, the children created their very firework displays using recycled materials to create marks within paint. This led to discussions about colours, sounds, and patterns. Sharing stories from home provides opportunities to reinforce learning through conversations with others about what they have seen and experienced. These conversations are important as they provide opportunities to extend language through conversations with their peers and practitioner. It also provides support for brain development. This support allows the children to recall previous events and experiences they have shared with loved ones.

### Ashington Day Nursery & Pre-School

London Road, Ashington, West Sussex RH20 3JR

T: 01903 892643

E: [ashington@thenurseryfamily.co.uk](mailto:ashington@thenurseryfamily.co.uk)

[thenurseryfamily.co.uk](http://thenurseryfamily.co.uk)