

Merchant Square Day Nursery



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Dear Families and friends,

Welcome to this terms newsletter. There will be lots of exciting activities planned over the next few weeks which will develop the children's skills. These activities provide many opportunities for the children to learn in all areas of the curriculum. They are always designed to stimulate children's interests and are delivered in a way that enables the children to have fun whilst they are learning.

Curriculum Areas.

<https://www.gov.gg/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=104249&p=0>

The Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum (EYFS) is divided into 2 main areas:-

The Prime Areas (3) - Communication, Physical and Personal, Social & Emotional.

The Specific Areas (4) - Literacy, Mathematics, Understanding of the World and Expressive Art & Design.

The activities that the staff plan for the children come under these headings which supports the children's all round development and learning.



WORLD BOOK DAY

We will be celebrating world book day on March 2nd 2017

Bring YOUR child dressed as their favourite book character and bring the character to life on World Book Day.

Valentine's Day

The children really enjoyed our Valentine themed day. We had fun making love heart biscuits and collages using red and pink materials. Some of the children enjoyed dressing in red and pink clothing.



Merchant Square Nursery/Pre-school

Facebook page

Come follow us on our Facebook page so you can find out about the activities your child is doing at the nursery/pre-school.

Find us under the name of, **Merchant Square Day Nursery - Paddington.**



Mother's Day - Sunday 26th March

We hope you all have a special day with your families. We are so lucky to have extended families with different generations of mums to share the day with. It would be lovely if you could send in your Mother's Day photos for our family board.

We will also be having a stay and play sessions for families to come in and carryout some mother's day activities on Wednesday 22nd March at 3pm. Please let the staff in your room if you and your families will be attending.





News from the rooms

Babies

Recently in the baby room the children have been showing a significant interest in messy play this is an important part of early education. It offers many opportunities for learning. Children, especially young children, as they explore their environment with all their senses. Children learn primarily through play, so combining their need to play and their need to explore often results in a mess giving practitioners the opportunity to extend children's learning by offering a range of different messy play activities.

This type of play has allowed the children to incorporate rich textural experiences allows children to express their emotions through manipulating the materials (clay, paint, sand) and refines their sense of touch. The richer the textural experiences, the richer their cognitive and language development will be. Children also learn about cause and effect (mixing colours, pressing too hard on your play dough sculpture) as well as size, shape and many other concepts. Messy play materials should encompass different temperatures (cold, warm, tepid), textures (rough, smooth, wet, dry), scents, appearances and locations.

This types of play links to many areas of the Early Year Foundation Stage

Physical Development

Children have been given the tools to develop and practice fine motor skills and eye hand coordination. Activities such as stacking, pouring and spooning will develop eye-hand coordination. Practicing cutting, writing in shaving foam, and using tongs will develop fine motor skills. The different types of hands-on activities will provide opportunities for children to compare textures such as smooth, rough, hard and soft. While respecting each other's personal space, children will gain an understanding of their own body space.

Communication and Language Development

During messy play, children are given many opportunities to speak and listen. The children have been using words and gestures to share resources, explain actions, negotiate plans and take turns.

Practitioners ask open ended questions to encouraging children's thinking skills.

Mathematical Development

Messy play offers many opportunities for counting, calculating and measurement. The children have enjoyed sorting objects, filling containers and creating patterns. Numbers have involved in many activities providing opportunities to understand their symbolic meaning.

Expressive art and design

Children are given endless opportunities with a variety of materials to build imagination and creativity. Through sensory experiences, they are able to respond to what they see, hear, feel, touch and smell. The toddler children have been expressing their feelings and thoughts through colour, texture, shapes and forms in two and three dimensions.





Toddler Room

In the toddler room children have been showing lots of interest in animals and their sounds. The children have thoroughly enjoyed participating in the fun activities provided by the practitioners such as Old Mc Donald's Farm, Wild Animal Kingdom Collage and Dinosaur painting. We have all enjoyed singing and reading animal rhymes and books chosen by the children. This has helped us to support children's learning especially in the three prime areas of learning; Personal Social and Emotional Development, Communication and Language and Physical Development. We thank all parents who have worked alongside us to extend children's learning by visiting the farm, zoo, and aquarium.

Please come and take a look at our Chinese New Year Display Board. The children have worked hard creating their masterpieces, practising their fine motor skills, hand- eye coordination, sharing the resources and exploring the different colours, textures and sizes of the resources used. We have been talking about the Chinese New Year, the year of the Rooster and have been learning to make the same noise as the Rooster.

We will continue to help children who will be transitioning to us from the baby room and also support our toddlers who will be moving up to the 2-3's room, as we want their transition to be smooth, happy and relaxed.

2-3's

The 2-3's Room has been busy planning and creating fun, exciting and educational activities that support and extend children's learning. Over the last few weeks the children have had a significant interest in the natural world and the practitioners have been supporting this by taking the children on nature walks to see the world around them. The children spoke about the effects the weather has on the environment and also their own bodies. They collected some natural resources and extended their learning by allowing the children to bring them into the room creating natural world tuff trays. The children also enjoyed making their very own bugs, birds and insects. Please do come and have a look at their display in the room.

The children have been enjoying doing lots of different types of cooking activities this has stemmed from the children role playing. We have given the children the opportunity to do some food tasting activities and baking with Sonia the nursery cook.

We have been introducing new nursery rhymes and songs with the children and have had lots of fun doing music and movement.





Pre School

In the Pre - School the children have been celebrating Chinese New Year by looking for China on the world map, to see where about it is. We learnt about how China celebrate their new year, we made cards and decorated lanterns. We have also been looking at Chinese numbers and learning how to write 1-10.

The children have been looking closely at 2D Shapes, the number of sides each shape has. We are also continuing to talk about the winter season, the different animals which live in the snow climates, and discussing how freezing and melting takes place. Following the winter theme we have been playing Simon says and encouraging children to understand how to keep warm.

Gentle Reminders

Buggy store

Due to health & safety issues, parent/carers are requested to fold their buggies up and store in the buggy store. We are having difficulties in families and visitors accessing the lift and also when children are going on an outing it is becoming difficult to manage the space.

Fees

Just a reminder who is currently not on a direct debit will need to fill in a form, following our terms and conditions fees need to be paid via direct debit on the 1st of each month. Fees not paid will incur a £35.00 late fee. If you can ask reception for a form or send an email we will forward this to you

Sick Child Policy

If as child becomes unwell at Nursery we provide care until a parent / carer arrives to collect the child or the child is transferred to hospital whichever is appropriate. It is not the policy of the nursery to care for children who are ill. We want to reduce the possibility of other children catching infections and therefore ask parents to respect the exclusion periods for vomiting, diarrhoea and infectious diseases.

Procedures for children who are sick or infectious

- No member of staff should accept a child into nursery if the child currently has, or has had, sickness and/or diarrhoea within the last 48 hours. They should ask the parent to take the child home again.
- No member of staff should accept a child into nursery if the child currently has a contagious infection or disease. They should ask the parent to take the child home again or to the GP whichever is appropriate.



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- If a child becomes unwell during the day - for example they have a high temperature, sickness, diarrhoea or pains, particularly in the head or stomach - then the Key Person or Room Leader should inform the Manager (or person in charge of the nursery) and the parents or emergency contacts called and asked to collect the child.
- A child may be admitted to the nursery after being previously sent home with a temperature once they are well enough and are not Calpol reliant. There may be discretion in this if the child is of teething age with the Manager or Deputy Manger's agreement.
- If a child who known a long term medical condition suffers deterioration of the condition follow the advice given in the Care Plan. In an emergency situation call an ambulance.
- If a child becomes seriously unwell First Aid should be given as appropriate by a trained First Aider, an ambulance called and parents informed.

