



Bright Kids Gazette



Ensuring the future is healthier for our kids

November/December
2011

Learning Stories

The nursery have introduced Learning Stories as an effective assessment practice to reflect the holistic way children learn. This assessment of children encompasses all dimensions of children's learning and development. This holistic type of assessment connect what is being learned to meaningful situations and purposes, often using the narrative to convey this. By viewing play from multiple perspectives (staff, children and parents) it can enhance the interpretation and analysis of the learning. Learning Stories are written as if they are speaking to the child, recording their enjoyment and excitement and highlighting their achievements. Once recorded the Learning Story will be shared with the child's family to which they can add their voice to the observation, this will then be kept in the child's portfolio. If you would like any more information on Learning Stories please see a member of staff in your child's room.

also be drawing our raffle in which we have some great prizes. If you are unable to sell all your tickets then please return unsold tickets so we can pass them on. We will also be selling cakes and drinks, for those who might want to have something more substantial to eat we will be selling Hot Roast Baps. We will soon be sending home an empty jar with your child - please will you fill it up with anything of your choice for our Jar Tombola. If you are able to donate anything for the Bazaar please see a member of staff.

One Month/Annual Questionnaires

When your child firsts starts with us you are given lots of information included in this is the 'One Month Questionnaire' - this gives you an opportunity to give us any feedback on how your child's settling in was carried out. We do take the feedback seriously as to what we did well and what we can improve upon and this helps us in developing our future practice. We will also be sending out Annual Questionnaires in the New Year for all parents to complete, thank you for your support.

Winter Weather

With our changing weather please can you make sure that your child has a suitable coat, gloves and hat at Nursery, so they are able to participate in Outdoor Play.

Please find attached an up to date contact list so we can make sure we have the most recent contact numbers for you.

Christmas Bazaar



We are holding our Annual Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, 3rd December 10.00-12.00pm. We will have many exciting stalls like Chocolate & Bottle and Jar Tombola. There will be a Merchandise Stall where you will have the opportunity to buy stocking fillers. We will be offering you this opportunity to purchase the Nursery Tea Towel which will have your child's personal handprint or drawing - a unique gift to send to the family. Father Christmas will be visiting us in his Grotto. We will

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Editors: Anita

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Training Bulletin

The team have been up-skilling themselves and developing their roles and are undertaking the following training:

Most staff updated their knowledge on Basic Food Hygiene.

Anita and Lorraine will be attending a Quality Conference in November.

Anita will be attending a Senco Workshop in November All staff have been undergoing training to develop their staff performance and their individual roles and responsibilities.



2011 Dates

- Saturday 3rd December: **Christmas Bazaar**
- Monday 12th December: **Baby Suite Christmas Party**
- Tuesday 13th December: **Pre-school Carol Concert**
- Thursday 15th December: **Downstairs Christmas Party**
- Friday 23rd December: **Closing at 6.00pm**
- Tuesday 3rd January 2012: **Re-open at 7.30am**



Staff News

Congratulations to Abby she has now become Acting Room Leader for Baby Suite.

Amy is now working in Out Of School Club in the afternoon.

Congratulations to Megan (Bank Staff) who is now a Qualified teacher well done to her.

Congratulations to Tina who gave birth to a baby boy Finley Miles Davis (8lb 9oz) on Thursday, 17th November 2011.





Baby Suite

Abby and Nicky would like to welcome Harrison and Rebekah and their families, they have settled in really well and have made many friends. The babies have been joining in with the music fun on Wednesday mornings with Steve and have found it full of fun and learning too. The babies have been on many walks to the Park and visited the ducks at the duck pond where they collected sticks then used them for mud play and stick painting. Babies joined in with Halloween Fancy Dress and the winner was Hope but well done to all of you – you all looked fantastic!



Pre-school

What an exciting few months Hannah, Ella, Edward and Mia have settled in really well, and it was lovely to see all the grant children back after the Summer. Children had a fun time at Hickory Dickory's—even the staff had a few goes on the big slide!! We are planning some Christmas trips so watch this space. We would like to say a big thank you to Ewelina (Dawid's Mom) who has offered to teach the staff some basic Polish words. Children found a caterpillar in the garden and over the weeks watched it turn into a fantastic Cocoon how exciting! Children enjoyed dressing up for the Halloween Party, what fantastic costumes and the winners were Ella and William. The children enjoyed playing musical chairs and pass the parcel – a big thank you to all the parents who helped out. A big thank you also to Stephen (Jake Durber's dad)who was the first parent to return their Learning Story it was a great read.



Bright n Actives

Reece and Oscar have settled in really well and have made lots of friends.

Congratulations to Sophia's parents on the safe arrival of Baby Joshua. A big thank you to Deepika (Shreya's) Mom for bringing in some lovely treats for Diwali. Our best wishes to Honey-Mae's Mum who is due very soon. The children have been joining in lots of baby role play. They have been learning all about Autumn and colour mixing and have had good recognition of shapes and colours. The children enjoyed the Halloween Party and the winner of the best costume was Shreya. Well done to Carol and Rachel who also dressed up.



Out Of School Club

All the new children have settled in really well and have made many friends. The staff have received training on the new Out of School Club EYFS & Playwork packs and have been sending out letters to the parents to help stock up their play menu boxes. They have also introduced Learning Stories and these have been going well. The Half Term Holiday Club was very successful and children went to visit Ragley Hall and had a fun time Zorbing on the water!! The staff would also like to say Thank You to Jon who came in his Fire Fighter uniform and discussed with the children about Fire Safety and Bonfire Night and children enjoyed dressing up in the uniform.

Parents Section

You can now find our newsletters and registration forms on our web site:
www.bright-kids.co.uk



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Is there anything you would like to see in the newsletter that you would find useful?

If you have a item to sell and parents might be interested then we can put it here , arrange a morning at the park to meet up with other children and parents. If you would like to be involved then please see a member of staff in your room.

Making Bath time Fun!!!

Make toddler bath time routines an enjoyable ritual with these fun ideas:

Be Prepared for Bath time- have everything you need at hand,

Start Dinner early so bath time isn't rushed



DIY bath time: use plastic tubs and utensils and pouring items and pretend cooking, ice cube trays

Set a fun bath theme: catch objects with a sieve, cleaning objects or cleaning your arms as you dangle into the bath!! Bath crayons get the budding artists to draw and wash away using child friendly foam to build mountains to put their animals in.

Get your child to help put the things away, pull the plug out and watch the water drain away,