

## Monthly Newsletter – February 2024

Please read the following newsletter to keep up to date with upcoming events, Pre-School news and information about what the children have been up to!

### Key dates for your diary

**Easter holiday** - Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March – Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April

**World book day** – Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March (we will be celebrating all week)

**Stay and Play** - Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2pm – 3pm. (All children and parents are welcome even if it's not your day)

**Firefighter visit** – Thursday 21st March

### Last month we had fun...

The children have really enjoyed exploring different job roles. There has been lots of dressing up, role play and creative activities for the children to enjoy. The children have taken a particular interest to firefighting and we are so looking forward to a visit from a real firefighter later this term.



We have also been using lots of opportunities to promote back and forth conversation, listening skills and following instructions with some lovely activities including baking 'Gruffalo Crumble', sensory play, celebrating Chinese New Year, mask making and retelling stories and our outdoor hot chocolate café.



## In March we will be...

**Asking** – Can you see any signs of Spring? Do you celebrate Easter in your house? Meeting a real firefighter and a blue light ambulance driver who's training to be a paramedic.

**Reading** – Mog and the V.E.T, Topsy and Tim go to the Fire Station, Burglar bill and the Selfish Crocodile. Non-Fiction books about Spring Time.

**Exploring** – What jobs people might do? What do you recognise when you are out and about? What could you be when you are a grown up? What makes you a superhero? Going on a nature walk and looking for signs of spring.

**How can you help** – Can spot any signs of Spring? What might we see? Talk about how your family or other families might celebrate Easter?

## Other News

We are busy planning and organising our outdoor area enhancements. To help keep costs down so we can do as much as possible with the money we have, we are looking for some parent/friends/family helpers. Do you have any time to spare to help with any of the tasks below? I have attached an 'ideas' sheet to show you what I mean!

- Dig out a flower bed and turn into a sandpit.
- Sand two pallets to make safe for children.
- Use one pallet at the side of sandpit and attach drain pipes and funnels for gross motor sand play.
- Create a music wall on one pallet.
- Add a trellis to the fence to create a water wall by attaching different tubes and funnels onto the fence.
- Dig grass area around the bike store and add bark so that the children can self-select the bikes and 'park' them.

Please can you email the office if you are able to help in any way.

## Funding

All children accessing Early Years Funded hours whether Universal Entitlement (15 hours for 3 – 4 year olds), Working Families Eligibility (**NOW FROM 2 YEARS**) or Terrific Two's, will need to complete a new Parent Agreement Form, we will put copies in the pigeon holes please ensure these are returned to the office before Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024. Any questions please ask Helen Northway.

## Committee News

The Ilkley Carnival is taking place during the morning of Monday 6th May and Preschool will once again be taking part!

The overall theme for this years carnival is "Mardi Gras", with Preschool's theme being "Carnival Birds". Costumes will involve wings, masks and of course, lots of feathers and bright colours!

All children who attend Preschool are invited to take part - each child needs to have an adult walk with them in the carnival (and of course, dress up!)

If you would like your child to be involved in the carnival parade, **please could you send a message to Von (Big Felix's Mummy) on 07977450432 before the 8<sup>th</sup> March with your child's name** so that we can create a list of those taking part and start to organise costumes.

If you would like to be involved in the creation of costumes, or have any resources that fit with this year's theme, these would be gratefully received! It may be that a small charge will be required for all children taking part to help towards the cost of the costumes.

It would be brilliant if we could get lots of the children involved in this fantastic community event.