

## Monthly Newsletter – February 2025

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 7<sup>th</sup> April – Monday 21<sup>st</sup> April (First day back is Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April)

**World book day** – Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March (we will be celebrating all week)

**Toddler group** - Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March – Science Special

### Last month we had fun...

The children have been busy immersing themselves in exciting activities inspired by *The Gruffalo* and *The Three Little Pigs*. Through storytelling and sensory play, they explored the language of nature, using sensory bins filled with natural materials to bring the stories to life. They counted the Gruffalo's prickles, played acorn counting games, experimented with a Little Pig Brick Building Game, and practiced using chopsticks—an enjoyable challenge! Outdoors, they moved like different animals, slithering like snakes, flying like owls, and stomping like a Gruffalo while using animal sounds to develop their language skills. They even built their own Three Little Pigs houses, strengthening their teamwork and creativity.



We also embraced Chinese New Year, learning about its traditions and symbols. Our PSED discussions focused on kindness and perseverance, using the stories to highlight important life lessons.



## **In March we will be...**

**Asking** - Do you know any real-life superheroes? What people do you recognise when you're out? What could you be when you grow up?

**Reading** - Topsy and Tim Go to the Fire Station, Burglar Bill, Mog and the V.E.T, The Selfish Crocodile and You Can't Call an Elephant in an Emergency

**Exploring** - Each week, children will explore different real-life superheroes and their roles in the community through engaging activities.

**How Can You Help?** – Do you have any links with local firefighters, police officers, doctors, dentist, or vets that could come in and talk to the children? Do you have any themed props (helmets, uniforms, toy medical kits) for role-play areas.

## **Other News**

### **Exploring an 8:15 Drop-Off Option – We'd Love Your Feedback!**

We understand that Ben Rhydding Primary School is offering a free breakfast club during the Summer Term as part of a government scheme, and some of our families may be interested in this option. To support our parents, we are considering introducing an **8:15 drop-off time after Easter** to align with the school's breakfast club.

This option is already available on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, and we are now exploring the possibility of extending it to other days. If this is something you would be interested in, please let us know, as this will help us plan accordingly.

If you have any spare funded hours, these could be used towards this earlier drop-off. Children would be able to arrive anytime from 8:15 onwards.

If you're unsure about anything or how this would work for you, please speak to Sarah or Helen. If this is something you would be interested in please can you email the office by Wednesday, March 5th, so we can assess the viability of this option and determine the specific days. This will allow us to submit our funded hours claims to Bradford in the coming weeks.

### **Special Easter Craft Day - Tuesday 22nd April**

We are planning a special Easter Craft Day on Tuesday, 22nd April! The day will be filled with fun activities, and we will end the day with an Easter Egg Hunt at 2:30 PM. Parents are invited to join in and take part in the hunt with their child. If your child doesn't usually attend on Tuesdays, you are still welcome to come along and join us for the Easter Egg Hunt. Please note that you would need to stay with your child during the event.

## Committee News

The Ilkley Carnival is taking place during the morning of Monday 5th May and Pre-School will once again be taking part!

The overall theme for this year's carnival is "Ilkley's Past, Present and Future", with Pre-School's theme being "When I grow up...". The idea being that the children can dress up as what they would like to be when they're older.

All children who attend Pre-School 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 (Ruby's Mummy) on 07977450432 with your child's name so that we can create a list of those taking part and start to organise costumes.

It is hoped that with the theme we've chosen this year, most families will be able to sort out their own costume for their child depending on their choice of future job/wish of what they'd like to be; but we will need some things made to bring our group together and explain to the crowd our theme. If you would like to get involved in the crafting, please let us know!