



Hello Everyone,

Here is our playgroup news for this week...

LOOK WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO THIS WEEK!

This week the children have been learning their new story texts for the term: **Penguins: We're Going on a Bear Hunt**. **Squirrels: Where's Spot?** The children have had the story read to them and are beginning to recall the main events using a story map. Next week the children will be using props in the Squirrel room to retell the story and in Penguins they will be sequencing the story using pictures from the text.

During circle times this week we have focussed on discussing our feelings and emotions, talking about what makes us and others feel happy, sad, scared, cross and surprised. The children are continuing to learn about using kind hands, sharing, waiting and turn taking and why this important and how it can make others feel. We have been encouraging the children to use their manners during their day with us, encouraging them to say 'please' and 'thank you' at the appropriate times and discussing the importance of respecting each other, grown-ups, the toys and using kind words.

The children have enjoyed lots of outdoor play this week, experiencing the trim trail on the Infant school grounds, visiting the Nature Area and having lots of fun rolling down the bank on the field! They have also enjoyed exploring water play, emptying and filling containers and extending vocabulary by introducing a range of sea creatures such as 'octopus, stingray, starfish, squid and lobster.'

We have also been learning about 'Armistice Day' through a range of activities such as poppy making using paper plates and paint, decorating biscuits and large scale art in the garden. We have watched videos explaining what 'Remembrance Day' is all about and why we wear poppies. Here are some photographs of our week, please remember to also check your child's Tapestry account for more information on what we have been up to!



Christmas Raffle



This year we will be fundraising for the setting through a Christmas raffle. We are very kindly asking for donations for raffle prizes to make up our Christmas hampers. We would be very grateful for donations of chocolates, luxury items such as toiletry gift sets, candles, selection boxes, and alcohol. The children will be bringing home raffle tickets next week to sell to family and friends, if you would like additional tickets, please speak to a member of staff. Raffle tickets need to be returned by Friday 10th December.

Parent/Carer Information



➤ CHILDREN IN NEED- FRIDAY 19TH NOVEMBER- CHILDREN ARE WELCOME TO COME IN FANCY DRESS- DONATIONS WELCOME!



➤ CHRISTMAS PHOTOGRAPH PERMISSION SLIPS HAVE BEEN SENT OUT- PLEASE RETURN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE- IF WE DO NOT HAVE A SIGNED CONSENT FORM, CHILDREN WILL BE UNABLE TO HAVE THEIR PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN.



➤ YOUR CHILD'S KEY PERSON WILL BE ARRANGING A TELEPHONE APPOINTMENT FOR NEXT WEEK TO DISCUSS YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT.



➤ BOOK BAGS ARE AVAILABLE FOR £1.50 FOR YOUR CHILD TO TAKE HOME PAINTINGS, PICTURES, LETTERS AND FOR SHARE-A-BOOK! PLEASE SEE A MEMBER OF STAFF IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PURCHASE ONE.



➤ THE DEAN FOREST RAILWAY HAVE ADDED 2 EXTRA DATES FOR SANTA SPECIAL STEAM RIDES ON WEDNESDAY 8TH AND WEDNESDAY 15TH DECEMBER. PRICES ARE £15 PER ADULT OR CHILD AND INCLUDE A MINATURE FOR THE ADULTS AND AN AGE RELATED GIFT FOR THE CHILDREN. SANTA WILL BE VISITING EVERYONE ALONG THE JOURNEY AND THE CHRISTMAS GROTTO IS SET UP WHERE THE CHILDREN ARE ABLE TO MEET THE ELVES. TIMES ARE 11:15AM, 1:00PM AND

2:45PM. BOOKINGS CAN BE MADE VIA THE WEBSITE:

<https://deanforestrailway.co.uk/experiences/santa-specials/>

Snow Closure

We are approaching that time of year where snow could be on it's way!! If we have to close the setting due to the weather, we will inform you via our Facebook page- if you haven't already done so, please 'like' our page 'Coalway Early Years' for regular updates. The decision to close the setting will be made in line with both the infant and junior school.



MAKATON

Our new MAKATON signs this week are: **Please** and **Thank You**.



Annual General Meeting- Monday 22nd November

We are holding our Annual General Meeting on Monday 22nd November at 9:30am at the Kids Club for new members to be appointed to our committee. Committee meetings are held 3 to 4 times a year, usually during the day and last for around an hour; we discuss the operational matters and financial situation of the setting and welcome ideas for fundraising events. In order for the setting to operate, we legally need a committee in place, so if you have some free time and would like to join, please get in touch.



Dates for the Diary

- Children In Need- Friday 19th November
- Photographer- Tuesday 23rd and Wednesday 24th November
- End of Term: Friday 17th December