



February 2020



Dear Parents

Welcome to our Nursery News for the month of February 2020. There are still signs of us being embedded in Winter but hopefully we will soon see glimpses of Spring as February draws to a close. This month will be a particularly busy one so please take a few minutes to catch up on all the events and activities we have planned for the children.



Mooney, our beautiful rocking horse, will return this week after his stay at the Rocking Horse Retreat, where he enjoyed some well deserved down time and pampering! Everyone will be glad to see him returned to his original glory.

Our theme this month is **'People Who Help Us'** and our colour is **'RED'** - so children are encouraged to help build up our **red displays** in the classroom by providing interesting things from home.

During the month we will welcome a wide range of visitors to the school to help us with the theme:

'People Who Help Us'



From **Tuesday 4th February** we will welcome Jude (Lily's mum) who will be taking Yoga sessions as part of our Mindful Mini's Well Being initiative. Jude's sessions support good mental health and emotional well being, which are central to a child's development.



On **Wednesday 5th March** we will welcome visitors from RNLI along with Joe & Dylan's dads, who are crew members. We hope to be able to donate some money to this very worthy cause so please drop what you can in the collection buckets.

With the help of Christine, a past mum, and the Airport Fire and Rescue Service, we have arranged for an exciting visit to the school on **Thursday 6th February**. The children will be given the opportunity to dress up in a real firefighter uniform and see the emergency vehicle and equipment on board.



On **Monday 10th February** we welcome Brian Poots from Forest School NI. We hope to develop Trinity as a Forest School and adopt the Scandinavian principles that consider children's contact with nature to be extremely important, developmentally, from an early age. Brian will work with the children on a range of projects.



Parent consultations will take place during the week beginning **10th February**. **Mrs Perry will have interviews on Monday 10th**, **Mrs Ingham will have interviews on Tuesday 11th** and Miss Adair's interviews will be on **Thursday 13th February**. Schedules will be placed on the classroom doors so please sign up for a convenient time.



On **Wednesday 12th February** we are pleased to be able to invite parents to our Parent and Child storytelling event. Librarian, Julianna Ballentine will visit the Nursery and do a storytelling session at **10.30am for Yellow Room children and parents and 11am for Red Room children and parents**. Please come along and join your child if you are free!

On **Tuesday 25th (Yellow Room)** and **Wednesday 26th (Red Room)** we will look forward to one of the highlights of the nursery year – our trips to Bangor's Bus and Rail Station to meet the people who help us there! The bus and rail inspectors sometimes organise very special surprises for the children. We would welcome the help of parents on the day so further details and a permission letter will be issued soon.



We will also welcome Police Lady Emma to the Nursery on **Thursday 27th February**, who will chat to the children about her work as a police officer and will relay some very important Stranger Danger message to the children. You never know, there may also be a surprise police vehicle here too!!



Some very brave parents have volunteered to come along to their child's class to share their job or hobby with the children. We would love to hear from other parents who would like to help with our People Who Help Us theme. Don't be shy! If you are a pilot, a nurse, or an astronaut please come forward especially if you don't mind 27 enthusiastic little people with lots of questions!

We hope to set up hospitals in both classrooms this month so if you know anyone who can help us with items for this we would appreciate it. Things such as nurse uniforms, bandages, stethoscopes, x-ray pictures, even a skeleton or 2 would be helpful!

From the beginning of February **Adventure Ted** and **Adventure Tess** will visit the boys and girls in the Yellow Room while the children in the Red Room will have the opportunity to enjoy our Storysacks. Details of how both projects operate will be sent home along with Nursery News.



Our Mystery Reader initiative was a brilliant success last week and we look forward to four more parents coming along during the month of February.



Fundraising News Our Big fundraiser for this term is the **Trinity Nursery Festival of Racing!** A Night at the Races, which is scheduled to take place on Friday 6th March at Bangor Rugby Club so please put this date in your diaries. You have the opportunity to sponsor a race or buy a racehorse, which hopefully will be a winner on the night! This is a great night's entertainment and we hope that you are able to come along and support the Nursery. Friends and family are also welcome, the more the merrier! Full details will be available in the coming weeks.

You may have noticed that already the daffodils are beginning to peek above the ground, so in order that we will have a lovely display I would ask parents to encourage their children **not** to climb the steps or gates in the car-park and run along the grass where the daffodils are growing. This is a health and safety concern so please keep a close eye on your child when they are leaving the Nursery each afternoon.



A very happy birthday this month to:
Sarah Willis, Justin Hall and Carter Willis



The nursery will be closed for half term from Monday 17th ~ Friday 22nd February and will reopen on Monday 24th February

Enrichment Fund for the second half of Term 2 becomes due after the half term break. For this period the Enrichment Fund will be £36 and is due by Friday 6th March.

Two other small reminders which will help with the efficient running of the nursery are;

- Please remember to return any borrowed sweatshirts, track bottoms etc as our supplies are much depleted.
- We would appreciate it if parents sent in dinner money **every Monday**. Please send the correct amount as we do not keep cash on the premises and change can be difficult to make.



**** ADVANCE NOTICE ****

Wednesday 18th March we will host our next parents session. Sarah Patterson from Queens University, a children's behaviour expert, and she will deliver High 5, a Home and School Positive Behaviour Management Programme. More information will follow.

As the weather still remains cold if you have not already done so, please send in a labelled warm hat for our outdoor hat box for your child to wear during outdoor play.

Thank you for your continued support. Best wishes to you all.
Have a great month, from the staff of Trinity Nursery School.





Everyday and Everyway Talking about... February



Valentine's Day and our "People Who Help Us" theme are both in February. It's a good time to both think about those who help us, starting with mum and dad, and to celebrate family by thinking about those you love. Children can learn many things by celebrating these two themes.

Try these activities, songs, books and crafts to help your child learn. Speak, sing, and talk about books with your child in your own language.



Activities

Valentine's Day

- Talk about what this day means. Talk about how we send cards to tell people we love them.
- Talk about all the people your child loves. Make a list of the people that you will send a card.
- Let your child pick out the cards to send. Let him write his name on the card.
- Let your child make his own Valentine cards. Help him cut out hearts and write notes in them. He or she can draw or paint a picture to send them as a gift.
- Make heart-shaped sugar cookies together. Your child can use the cookie cutter and can help put icing and decorations on them.



People Who Help Us

Encourage your child to tell you about all the visitors to the Nursery this month such as the Nurse, the Vet, the Dentist, the Policeman, the Fireman etc. Talk to your child about the visit to the Bus & Train Station. Help them to recall everything they did and were able to see there.



Out and About

- As you walk outside help your child to recognise people who help in the Community such as Police, Ambulance Drivers, shop assistants and so on.
- Look out for signs that indicate people who help us, such as the green cross of a chemist. Also, help your child to recognise people who deliver the post and newspapers, and vehicles for carrying food.



Songs and Rhymes

Want to learn more songs and rhymes and rhymes?
Look for a parent-child music class in your area.

10 Little Hearts (Author unknown)

1 little, 2 little, 3 little red heart
4 little, 5 little, 6 little red hearts
7 little, 8 little, 9 little red hearts
10 little wiggling red hearts
(count your fingers as you sing and wiggle them when you get to the end)

Miss Polly had a Dolly

Miss Polly had a dolly who was sick, sick, sick
So she phoned for the Doctor to come quick, quick, quick
The Doctor came with his bag and his hat
And he knocked on the door with a rat-a-tat-tat
He looked at the dolly and he shook his head
And he said "Miss Polly put her straight to bed"
He wrote on a paper for a pill, pill, pill
I'll be back in the morning with my bill, bill, bill.

Who Helps Us?

(Tune Polly Put the Kettle On)
Farmers grow the good we eat (x3)
They help every day.
Thank you farmers for our food (x3)
They help ev'ry day.
Doctors help to make us well (x3)
They help ev'ry day.
Thank you doctor now I'm well (x3)
They help ev'ry day.

Singing is a great way for children to learn new words. Don't forget to make up actions for songs.

If You're Happy and you know it

If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands
If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands
If you're happy and you know it
And you really want to show it
If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands.
(change it up and add other actions like stomp your feet, nod your head, jump up and down or hug a friend)

Drawing, colouring cutting and making crafts help children learn skills they later need for writing

Books

There is a great selection of books available on this theme. Visit the local library or have a browse through the nursery library box. We recommend . . .

The Jolly Postman by Janet & Allan Ahlberg
Funnybones by Janet & Allan Ahlberg
Mrs Jollipop by Dick King-Smith
Fireman Sam & Postman Pat series

The children enjoy information books too such as . . .

My Visit to the Dentist by D Bentley
Jobs People Do by Christopher Maynard
A Day in the Life of series by Carol Watson
(titles cover an ambulance team, baker, dentist, doctor, farmer, fire-fighter, hairdresser, police officer, postman, refuse collector and teacher)

Crafts

Heart Wreath

Materials needed: red and pink card, paper plate, scissors, glue

Instructions

Cut a circle out of the middle of the paper plate so it leaves a ring about 2-3 inches wide.

Cut out a lot of red and pink hearts large enough to cover the plate.

Write the name of someone or something that your child likes on each of the hearts. Glue hearts on the paper plate covering the entire plate ring.

Soft Sugar Cookies

(as a special treat)

Materials needed: 1 cup butter, 1½ cups sugar, 2 eggs, 1 teaspoon vanilla flavouring, 1 teaspoon almond flavouring, ⅓ cup milk, 4 cups flour, 2½ teaspoons baking powder, 1 teaspoon salt

Instructions

Cream together butter and sugar until light and fluffy.

Mix in eggs, vanilla and almond flavouring.

Add milk and mix well.

Sift together flour, baking powder and salt. Gradually add flour mixture and mix well. Refrigerate overnight. Roll dough to desired thickness and cut with favourite cookie cutters. Bake in a 180° oven for 8-10 minutes. Let cool and decorate with your favourite icing.