

Finally January is over and hopefully we will be heading into spring soon, some very exciting things coming up....



### Farm Trip

Our farm trip is VERY soon (Friday 7<sup>th</sup> & Monday 10<sup>th</sup>) and we are all very excited. Consent forms are going out to all parents who have signed up so please let us know asap if you would like to do this. It is a small cost of £5 for children who do not attend on these days to cover the extra staff and transport. Trips are something we have had lots of requests for from our parent questionnaires so we are trying hard to make these happen! This trip will teach the children so much about life cycles, their understanding of the world and extend their confidence of new situations!

### Students

We have 2 students in with us over the next 5 weeks, Elise and Katie are studying Early Childhood Studies at Chester University. Their pictures are up on our staff board.

### Parents Committee

Our meeting this term went brilliantly with lots of new ideas been discussed and soon to be implemented. If you would like to be on our parents committee please speak to Astone or Laura.

### Reports

You should have all received a report off your childs key worker, we hope you enjoyed reading them! If you could please return them when you are done so we can add these to their learning journey, copies are available on request, thank you!

### A\* Sports

The first free trial of A\* Sports will be on the 25<sup>th</sup> February with the weekly sessions beginning the following Tuesday. This will be at a charge of £2 per session (massive discount on usual session prices). If your child(ren) is in on a Tuesday then this is an OPT OUT session. If you would like your child to attend but is not in on a Tuesday then you could pay for the morning as an extra to their current sessions, 8-1 for nursery children or 9-12 for term time children. Alternatively you could book in for an hour slot (10.30-11.30) working out at £8 including A\* session. Please speak to Astone or Laura if you have any questions!

### PJ Day

Don't forget Pyjama Day on the 25<sup>th</sup> Feb, 50p donation for a big sleepover party!

### Big Bears



As most of you will have noticed we have had a big move round in Big Bears. This is to allow the areas of learning to be used more effectively, a bigger home corner, cosier book corner, an art area closer to the bathroom and a construction area away from the traffic path. We have also added some real plants (Daisy Thomas and Marvin!) which will teach children about nature indoors. The children absolutely love the new layout and all different sections are being used more effectively.

### Eco Day



Our eco day is to be held on the 15<sup>th</sup> of March and we would love all families to get involved helping out! Our plan is to install some new planting areas and rejuvenate what is already there. We will be placing a sign up sheet of things we need (old willies, drainpipe) and are appealing to anyone and everyone who might be able to source these. As we are an eco school recycling old things rather than buying new is very important to us, the sign up sheet will be in the cloak room so if you think you can locate any of the items just sign next to your name! Hopefully we can all help to make a much more enriched environment ready for the summer ☺

On our eco day we would also love to install our bird box camera and rig it up to the computer so we can have a feed on our website. As you can imagine this is very technical and Sandy isn't up to the job! If you know of anyone who might be able to help us out please speak to Laura or Astone, this would be so amazing!

### Home Corner

Another way we are asking you to recycle is for new items in our home corner. If you could save any tubs/bottles/containers that are labelled to be used in the role play area. Using real life objects enhances their learning of 'real world' products and they are varied in textured and colour. If you have anything suitable could you please bring these in over the next couple of weeks and hand to any member of staff, thank you!

### Sky Dive

Some VERY exciting news...on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of May a group of 8 people, including Sandy Bears staff Astone, Melissa, Sophie and Leanne are partaking in a tandem skydive! We are all raising funds for Sandy Bears new outdoor climbing frame and a national charity to be confirmed. Very soon we will be showing you our sponsor forms and asking for your support. Everyone is invited on the day to come and watch from Tilstock Airfield, the more people there the less chance of not getting in the plane!! We will keep you up to date on details.

### Malpas Fire Station

Malpas Fire Station have very kindly agreed to let us come for a visit to see everything fireman related! More details with dates etc to follow.

### Pick Up Time

As most of you know pick up time can get quite busy at some points during the day. Whilst we are taking steps to ease this congestion over the coming month, in the meantime feel free to come into the room and organise shoes/coats/bags there and use the space we have!

### Menu

Our menu is based on children's healthy eating guidelines and we cook everything on site. We have been looking for new ideas to go on our menu and have had some suggestions from cous cous to haggis. If you have any family favourites you would like to see on the menu that we could cook for up to 27 children simply write it in your child's red diary book/baby daily sheet and we will attempt it over the coming weeks!

### Website



Just a reminder that all newsletters/upcoming dates are on our website. There is lots of pictures and information on here and if you click on the

red button at the bottom of the page it takes you straight to our parents recommendations.

### Recommendation Token

Lots of our new starters have come to Sandy Bears because of recommendations from our parents. To say thank you we are going to be giving a recommendation token which consists of 2 9am-3pm sessions free of charge. If your child is full time then this can be taken off your next bill. To qualify for this token the new starter must state your name under 'where did you hear about us' on their registration forms!

