

Discoverers Newsletter January February 2019

WELCOME

What a busy few weeks we have had in the Discoverers especially with our Outdoor Learning and Forest Schools with Becki, we have enjoyed getting out and exploring the surrounding area. Children have had lots of fun with the story of Stanley's Stick followed by a scavenger hunt to find lots of different sized sticks. Norris the Hedgehog (mascot) goes out with the children. When he is hungry, the children enjoyed running around looking for worms for Norris. We have also had a lot of fun with mark making using natural resources such as mud and sticks to make marks on paper, lots of muddy hands too! One cold morning trip to the park meant looking, exploring the ice, they also played on the hopscotch numbers practising counting to 10.

The Discoverers have also had fun using shaving foam and lots of different sized wooden and plastic bricks on the tray. Our task was to build a wall using the shaving foam as the cement, trying to make the wall as tall as possible without it falling over. We have been getting musical exploring different sounds we can make like quiet sounds and loud sounds, children have also enjoyed singing some of our songs alongside playing their instruments.



At the moment we are focusing on the sound 'at' in phonics, children have the opportunity to explore the many different words we can make by placing another letter at the front of 'at'. They have been very enthusiastic using the letter blocks to make the words with an adult and then having a go at trying to copy some of the letters onto the mirror using our special pens.

We have also been exploring colours and patterns using Lego bricks onto one of the Lego boards and painting over the top of the bricks. We then placed a piece of paper over the top and pressed down to transfer the paint onto the paper, there were lots of super patterns made and children really enjoyed seeing the end result.

PLEASE NOTE - we have quite a lot of jackets/hoodies and winter hats that seem to be 'lost' please pop in when you can to see if any belong to your child.

Thanks, The Discoverers Team

Ofsted rated GOOD in all areas

A consistent approach to Early Years
for the last 10 years 2008, 2011, 2013,
2017

Ofsted
Good
Provider

Forest Schools and Outdoor Learning

Hi All

Forest schools over the last couple of weeks has been amazing, the children are growing with confidence and love learning through outdoor experiences.

We have been digging for worms and talking about their length and how fat and juicy they are. We also did some bug hunts and talked about how we must be careful with them to ensure we don't hurt them.

Over the next few weeks we will be getting even messier making funny clay faces to take home.

We will also be learning how to play some new team games.

Thanks Becki - Outdoor Learning Leader

DIARY DATES

Closed Bank Holidays: 19th April 2019, 22nd April 2019, 6th May 2019, 27th May 2019 and 26th August

Comic Relief 15th March

Closed Monday 15th April Training Day

Tuesday 14th May Parents Evening

Child Safety Week 3rd-9th June

Big Toddle June TBC

Friday 26th July Training Day Closed

Monday 2nd September new contracts start

Sunday 29th September OPEN EVENT time TBC

Thursday 3rd October Parents Evening

Monday 28th October Training Day Closed

Children in Need November

Close for Christmas 12 noon 24th December

Closed Friday 3rd January Training Day

ParentZone
Partnership in your Pocket

ParentZone is an award winning smartphone app for parents. Parents can access information about their child's day at Jigsaws Childcare at a time that suits them best. ParentZone promotes the partnership between parents and Jigsaws to provide two way communications.

Healthy Eating

As part of our requirements for Ofsted and duty of care to your children, Jigsaws is a healthy eating setting. Ofsted inspectors look at the extent to which we are successfully supporting children to gain "knowledge of how to keep themselves healthy" and "make informed choices about healthy eating, [and] fitness" throughout their entire inspection.

In order to promote this, we take children out to forest schools, teach about exercise and the effects on our bodies and offer healthy snacks to help children to understand healthy eating. If you bring a snack for your child, please can you ensure that it is a piece of fruit or a yoghurt. Biscuits and fruit shoots will only be offered as part of the lunchtime pack up. Thank you for your help with this. If you have any questions please speak to your room supervisors.

The new Vegan Menu is available. Check the website for details <https://www.jigsawschildcare.co.uk/home-made-meals/>

20 is Plenty

At the moment a 20 is plenty scheme is being considered for the village in specific areas. If you would like to find out more a petition will be in the Community Shop and if you would like to volunteer or get involved Cllr Andrew Mason would love to hear from you. Jigsaws would like to support this scheme to slow the traffic down outside our play area and make drivers think about their speed as they go through the village.

Home Learning Bags

We have home learning bags for you to loan for 50p with activities for you to do at home. These are in the front reception area. Please ask your room supervisor if you wish to use one.

You can choose from four bags:

- Shape, size and pattern (Explorers and Discoverers)
- Numbers (Explorers and Discoverers)
- Reading and writing (Explorers and Discoverers)
- Heuristic Play (Crawlers and Explorers)

Nut Allergies

Just a reminder that we have children in the setting with allergies so please make sure any snacks or lunches that are sent in are nut free.

Jigsaws Session Start and Finish Time Reminder

Please note that children who are due to start at 9am must not be brought in before this time. We have a duty of care to your children and cannot meet this if we do not have the correct amount of staff for the children on the premises outside of the booked times.

Also children need to be collected from Jigsaws before you collect children from school as the afternoon session ends at 3pm.

JIGSAWS CHILDCARE LTD
01937 558951 www.jigsawschildcare.co.uk



Meet the Discoverers team



Linda Ross
Room Supervisor



Kay Scarce
Practitioner



Amy Elsworth
Practitioner



Freya Mitchell
EYE Apprentice



Rebecca Haines Deputy Manager/Outdoor Learning Lead

Amie Ross—Operations Manager

Nicole Newiss – Teaching & Learning Manager

Helen Smith – Business Manager

Are you looking for support with childcare costs?

Childcare Choices brings together all the government childcare offers in one place for the first time. The new Childcare Choices website makes it easy to find out what's on offer.

Use the Childcare Calculator at www.gov.uk/childcare-calculator to see what offers are available to support you and your family.