

March 2017



A big '**THANK YOU**' to families who completed a feedback questionnaire about our Valentine's Stay and Play sessions; we are delighted that you enjoyed them as much as we did and your suggestions are always very welcome.

Our next event will be our Special ladies' afternoon tea on **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March** from 10am - 11.30am and 1.30pm - 3pm. Please 'sign up' on the office door if you would like to come along. (Any ladies in your family are welcome!)

#### *Opportunities for the children...*

**Swimming** - we are thrilled that so many of you would like us to support your 3 and 4 year olds with weekly swimming lessons. Once everyone has responded (please return slip by 10<sup>th</sup> March) we will be able to give you more information. Nursery will be open, as usual, for children who won't be taking part.

**'Take One Picture'** - this is a fabulous opportunity for our children to get involved with this National Gallery's countrywide scheme. This year Bowes Museum, Barnard Castle will focus on the 'Canaletto' painting and children will be able to take part in creative activities. It is envisaged that some work will be displayed at Bowes Museum and the National Gallery will also exhibit a selection of work. We have been fortunate to benefit from a grant from the Ernest Cook Trust which means that the cost of the trip will be heavily subsidised. Look out for a separate letter with more details.

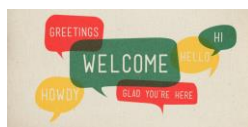
**Easter crafts** - we will be holding an Easter egg hunt and craft session on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April. Parents, grandparents and carers are very welcome to come and join us. More details to follow.

#### *Opportunities for the grown ups...*

Are you aware of what is on offer at **Woodhouse Children's Centre**? Do you have ideas about what could be provided for adults and children in our local area? We are hosting a '**cake, coffee and chat**' session from 11am - 12 noon on **Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March** in our outdoor classroom. We are able to look after your children whilst you attend. Please speak to Mrs Jenkins if you would like to come along.

This month the **Children's Centre** are offering first aid for babies/young children and a course that may save you money on vet bills - first aid for dogs. You can ring 03000 266 390 for dates and more details.

Our **Scholastic book fair** before February half term raised £75 worth of books in commission... these will be used as birthday gifts for the children. Thank you for your support.



*A very warm welcome to Freddie, Henry, Lucas H, Harrison and Lucas S who will be joining our 2 year olds' provision and Lexi, Joshua and Brian who are joining us in our 3 & 4 year olds' provision. Well done to John-Joe and Laila who have had a very smooth transition up to our main Nursery provision - exciting times ahead for you all!*



The following children will be celebrating their birthdays this month. **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to Jonathan, Olivia, Tia and Edie who will all be 4 years old and Isabella who is turning 3.

Lisa Jenkins Headteacher

On behalf of staff and children I would like to say a very big 'thank you' for your donations to school fund.

We have bought:

- Our daily healthy snacks
- Resources to celebrate Valentine's and Shrove Tuesday including ingredients for our pancake making and tasting!
- Resources to enhance our outdoor area

*Next, we hope to collect enough weekly donations to hire an incubator so that we can hatch some ducklings after Easter. Fingers crossed! Please remember to tick off your name in the folder/on the sheet so that we can keep our records as accurate as we can for auditing purposes.*

We know that some of the children have been talking lots about our revamped mud kitchen... they are learning lots and absolutely loving it! (As are staff) Resources have been moved from our Woodland Area so that the children can now enjoy the experiences and opportunities every day.



We also have a 'water collection', a revamped performance area and we are currently developing an 'investigation shed'. Also on our list is the creation of a cosy area and den making area... watch this space!

**Your child's safety is very important to us... please avoid driving down the approach to the school as this puts other children and parents at risk. (We have an agreement in place for you to use the Aclet Public House car park)**

**Thank you for your continuing support.**

#### *Dates for your diary...*

*Various dates across March/April: Parent/carer consultations*

*Thurs 9<sup>th</sup> March: Cake, coffee and chat, 11am - 12 noon in our outdoor classroom*

*Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> March: Special ladies' afternoon tea/stay and play (10am - 11.30am and 1.30pm - 3pm)*

*Thurs 30<sup>th</sup> March: Trip to Bowes Museum for 3 and 4 year olds*

*Wed 5<sup>th</sup> April: Easter egg hunt and crafts - come and join in the fun!*

*Fri 7<sup>th</sup> April: break up for Easter break, returning on*

*Mon 24<sup>th</sup> April*

#### **Governors**

Mrs Dransfield and Mrs Courtney supported us with our Valentine's stay and play in February.

Mrs Dixon has supported Mrs Jenkins with continuing to make strategic decisions that will benefit your children and families.

Mrs Courtney has met with Mrs Jenkins to discuss Ofsted inspection requirements.

We have a vacancy for a parent Governor; please speak to Mrs Jenkins if you are interested.

Lisa Jenkins Headteacher

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*Lisa Jenkins Headteacher*

