



## Newsletter February 2017

### Hello and welcome to our first newsletter of the New-Year

We cannot believe what a busy start to the year we have had and that January seems to have just passed us by! At least there are signs of Spring with new growth all around, catkins on the trees, snow drops in the verges and even the occasional daffodil in sheltered places!

As you will see all the children and the Busikids team have been very busy and extremely creative since our Christmas break, all your fridge doors must be adorned with the artwork of your creative little ones!

We would like to say a huge thank you for all the lovely cards and chocolates and treats that you sent in for all the Team and also for your great support for all our Christmas activities, the Fair was a huge success once again and we all enjoyed the Nativity in the Church, as this was the first one we have done, we will be able to improve upon some aspects at the end of 2017 when we hope to be able to try again!

It looks like February has seen in the Chicken Pox season, it seems to begin with the child feeling a bit under the weather, maybe presenting with a temperature, then the spots appear quite rapidly and we then know what was wrong a few days earlier! We hope anyone who has chicken pox currently gets well very quickly and would like to remind you that if your child does show symptoms, they do need to stay at home until all spots have dried over.

We have been very busy being extra vigilant in the cleaning of all toys and soft furnishings and all resources and surfaces during this time, continuing to promote good hand hygiene at all times to try to slow the spread.

You will see throughout the newsletter that we are all beginning to enjoy the longer days and are awaiting full blown Spring, but are still enjoying getting all snuggled up in our outdoor clothes and going out to play in the puddles and on the grass, it is lovely to come back into the warm and dry again, there is still a lot to be said about this time of year.

So please do read on and as always we do appreciate any feedback.

Best Wishes

Louise McGarry and The Busikids Team

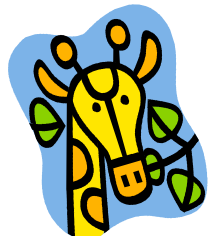


### Reminder

Please be reminded that if you need to make a change to the sessions your child attends we do ask for at least 4 weeks written notice to enable us to check the availability, our waiting lists and the start and end dates to then be able to liaise with you whether the change is possible or not.

If a place is confirmed, it will only be available for a minimal amount of time as we do have other enquiries to consider.

We do appreciate your understanding in these matters  
Many thanks - Charlotte and Suzanne



# Giraffe Room / Pre-School



## Pre-school Newsletter

We are all very happy to welcome Michaela to pre-school as our Senior Nursery Nurse who has joined us from the Penguin Room to support the Pre-school Team, covering the opposite shifts to Rebecca our Room Supervisor.

Michaela brings a lot of experience and knowledge to the room that will further encourage all the children with their learning and development but, most importantly, includes lots of fun, as children always learn better when they are having fun. 😊



We would also like to welcome all our new children that have joined us in the pre-school either moving through from the Monkey play room or joining us from elsewhere - it is great to have you all.

Since the last newsletter we have covered different variety of topics, Christmas - Health and Well-Being, People that Help us and the Chinese New Year.

We have all enjoyed talking about our teeth and the importance of looking after them. We looked at x-rays of teeth on our light table and wondered how many teeth we have in our mouths and spoke about how we all have baby teeth to start with and then we grow new grown up ones, which the children thought was really funny!



The children have made a poster about washing their hands and the importance of doing this to keep clean and healthy especially after we have used the bathroom and before we eat, this poster is now displayed in the children's bathroom. ☀️



For Chinese New Year we all watched a video explaining about Chinese New Year and how this is celebrated across the world with dancing and Chinese dragons and all the people dressing up, we have also listened to a story about the zodiac the children all found this very interesting and asked lots of questions and then we did some Chinese writing for a mark making activity and made our own Chinese dragons - such a fun and creative time !!



## Key Group Achievements

**Purple Group** (Rebecca) Over the last month we have been practising turn taking and listening to others in group activities. Everyone has done very well with this and we now playing games as a key group which is lots of fun! All the children have been working on letter and number recognition and everyone is making good progress. ☀️



**Red Group** (Sophie) This term our group have all made progress in different areas of learning. We have been working on letter recognition and formation which everyone has progressed in really well. Confidence in all the children has grown and they are continuing to build strong bonds with each other children in pre-school.

**Blue group** (Sonia) My group have done very well and are extending their speech and vocabulary which we have been using in role-play and talking to others, this is good to help extend their play and communication skills.

**Green group** (Sarah) This term we have been concentrating on our names and recognising their shapes and the shape of at least the first letter, we have also been doing a range of fun sensory activities.

**Yellow group** (Michaela) I would like to welcome all the children that have transitioned over to pre-school. We are all on a new journey and I look forward to working with this new age group and the exciting learning journey we all have ahead.



Continued overleaf



## Pre School Notices

Please may we have **any** spare clothes that your children have grown out of, as we currently have a very limited supply, this would be much appreciated, especially in these wet muddy times - Many thanks Thank you

As we are still in the winter months please may we ask all children have wellies, hats, gloves and spare clothes and waterproofs as we still like to explore and have fun in the wet and cold weather outside every day

**Also Please Please Please do label all of your childs clothing as we cannot keep track of who was wearing what each day - Big Thank You's**

**Please do ensure that all water bottles are taken home at the end of the day for hygiene reasons and then please make sure they are placed back in the tray when your child is dropped off the next time, thank you.**

Announcement, we are very sorry to be losing Sarah at the end of the month. She has become a very popular part of the team and will be missed by all of us and of course all the children. Sarah has decided to work in a school, reducing her hours to enable her to spend more time with her very young daughter, so we wish you all the best and look forward to keeping in touch.

Thanks for all your support



**Rebecca, Michaela, Sophie, Sonia and Sarah**



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Eat well • Move well • Live well



So it is collection time again - we have until the first week in May to collect as many tokens as we can to be able to order lots of awesome resources from this great scheme, so please tell everyone you know, relatives, work colleagues friends etc.... that you are collecting tokens for Busikids and we will try to surpass your previous efforts

Please just post in the box (when we have made it) or just give to the girls in the rooms and we will see how well we do.

Thank you so much for your efforts



# Monkey Playroom



**Hello and welcome to 2017**

It was a while ago now but we all hope you had a lovely Christmas and new Year with all your family and friends and that you all received some lovely presents?!

We have been looking closely at Winter time since returning from the Christmas break.



We have enjoyed painting with cotton reels on a snowman shape, exploring real snow, sticking a collage of winter clothes, ice play with under water animals, wintery stories at circle time and created a melted snowman collage as well as pipette icicle painting at the easel (very Messy!)

You can find all our wintery artwork on the display board in the room, please do have a good look.



Over the coming weeks we will be exploring shapes and colours, so please do not dress your children in their 'best' clothes as it is impossible to keep them from getting messy whilst we are using so many crafty materials.

We are very happy to welcome lots of new little people to the Monkey Room, Rosie, Mikolaj, Joshua, Parker, Catherine, Aila, Charlie, Baylee, Harrison, Louis, Wilf and Ayla, Grace and Evie - phew

A special mention for Elizabeth as she has turned a corner and now comes into nursery smiling and just goes off playing with her new friends, having a lovely time chatting away. Well done Elizabeth

Joshua E has transitioned into pull ups and is doing well sitting on the potty. Miriam has started to say more key words in every day play. Leiya has now learnt the names of her friends, well done! And Jacob K has gained in confidence and is now interacting much more with his peers. He likes to play with the trains and the cars, well done Jacob



We hope to have our new re-vamped Register Board finished soon and we hope you will find this easier to use at the end of the day. We do hope you are finding the new hand over system works better for you and you are learning more about your child's day and how they have developed.

If you have any concerns please speak to your key worker or you can come to myself Elaine, or Lou, we always like to hear your feedback thank you

Grace, Harrison and Parker have started visits to the Monkey room from over the gate and are having great fun joining in and exploring their new environment

A great big **PLEASE** - Please name all items that you bring into Busikids for your Children, it helps so much! All clothes, coats, wellies, etc ... ..

**Thank You So Much**

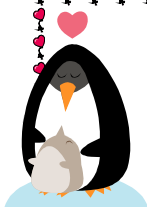
And a big thank you for coming along to Parents Evening, We do hope you find these events useful to discuss your Child's progress and it is always lovely for us to be able to spend a bit more time with you all too.

Well we are all looking forward to warmer, sunnier weather soon !!!

**Goodbye for now**

**from Elaine, Lou, Hannah, Anna, Geeta and Jo**





# Penguin Playroom



**Hello Everybody**

**A Happy New Year to you All!!!**

We do hope you had a lovely Christmas and good New Year?!?

We want to begin by saying a big welcome to Mel who has just joined us permanently as our new Room Supervisor, taking over from Michelle who left for pastures New.

Hello Everyone, I would like to introduce myself, my name is Mel and I have worked here at Busikids as supply staff for some months before applying for this post of Room Supervisor here in the Penguin Room and am utterly delighted to accept this position and am looking forward to working closely with the team - Hayley and Lauren to care for and help in the development of all your little ones.

Working with children has always been my passion. I emigrated to the UK in 2002 from Botswana and have followed a varied career from working with special needs children to studying for and gaining my BA in Early Childhood studies as well as my EYPS (early years professional status). All this information can now be put to good use on a daily basis here in the Penguin Room.

We are making Chinese lanterns to mark the end of the Chinese New Year celebrations, so keep an eye out for these and throughout the month we will be exploring sensory play such as all of us getting into the water play, sand, play dough, shaving foam and paint, ooh so much fun to be had!

We do love Valentines day which is fast approaching and a really good excuse to make something special for you all at home to share the love!

February covers many multi diversity celebrations, we will be celebrating the Chinese Lantern Festival, Valentines Day, and Shrove Tuesday to name a few!

Then look out for the colours **Red Blue** and **Yellow** around the room as we focus on our colours

We have said a fond farewell to a whole troop of Penguins recently, they all grow up so quickly! We still wave to you and mix up at sleep times and playing outside, so it is a lovely gentle transition for all of us :-)

On the other hand we are welcoming Oscar, Noah, Amelia, Evie, Lincoln and Donovan who are all settling in so very well and are really enjoying exploring their new room.

Here are some of our WoW moments .....

Evie has been trying to stand unaided by the side of our book corner - we have counted six independent steps so far walking between Lauren and Kirsty!

Noah is putting two words together and Bella is attempting to say sentences.

All the children have been enjoying Pyjama Drama, and have been doing lots of dancing and singing with our new dance, motion and song group that comes to visit.

Well that's it for now,  
See you all soon

**Mel, Hayley, and Lauren**



# Duckling Playroom



**Hello All**

Gong Hei Fat Choy!

The Ducklings seem to be brining in the New Year with lots of new skills!

Welcome to Jessica, Phoenix, Caleb, Camilla, Chloe and Alex, they are all settling in brilliantly and are well on their way to making lots of new friends.

We would also like to welcome Toran - Busikids Trainee Nursery Nurse who will be a permanent feature in Ducklings on a Tuesday and Wednesday, he has already built some lovely bonds with the children and is an asset to the Busikids Team.

All of the children are showing great interest in our signing that supports the spoken word which is great to see, to be able to communicate back and forth with such very young children is a truly amazing thing to be able to do .

Our hearts are often melted by all the milestones, big and small that the children reach. We have some amazing characters and cheeky faces that bring in such fun to our days as well as theirs

Denise, Lucy and Remy have all started to find their walking feet, it wont be long before Oliver and Levon will be catching up with them! Alice, Jake and Max are all putting more sounds together and also starting to use single sounds so we will be hearing a lot more soon!

The children are showing lots of interest in our "that's not my..." books, they will happily sit down and look at the pictures and enjoy the tactile parts of the pages, we have just started to play 'find the mouse' which they also love.

The pop-up toys and stacking cups are also firm favourites of our days. They are really getting the repetition of play to master their new found skills, showing great pride and pleasure when they make the animals pop up or when they build a tower and even clap when we join in.

Another new addition to the duckling room is the animal sounds CD which the children LOVE!! They have started to mimic some of the sounds, it has also intrigued anyone that walks past as they hear the odd Moo or call of a seal or Donkey !! It is very entertaining all round.

You may see some odd socks lying around or may find you loose your socks at home as we have been playing sock puppets and putting the socks on our hands and also been trying to put them on our toes, no mean feat!!

Now as the weather has been chilly or very wet we don't always get out as much as we would like so we have been making great use of the ramp but we have also been playing with the walkers, tents and tunnels, bouncing giraffe and bouncing around on cushion mountains, hopefully we will be able to get out more in the near future.

We have also been getting messy painting pictures for the Chinese new year, we do love the way the children explore the paint and how it moves as it squelches in their hands, messy play always features in our planning,, so if we look messy you will know that we have been busy playing and learning ..... Mealtimes included!

With lots of new babies and growth spurts galore we are finding lots of lovely new clothes, as we do not yet know them all, could you please make sure that, where possible, all clothing is named.

Many thanks.

Continued ... ..

## Duckling news continued

Remember we also love hearing about your days, night and weekends, all your stories make it into the children's learning journeys so if you also have a favourite photo we can add them in too!

This also goes with any routine changes that you make at home.

Please Can You Help?

We need corks, plastic tubes, gift boxes, bracelets, cotton reels, old phones and shoe boxes!!! Can you guess why?

We would also like to give Kirsty a special mention before she goes off on maternity leave. Thank you for being an amazing part of our Duckling Team. You have made amazing bonds with the Ducklings old and new and we thank you for your hard work and dedication. We all wish you and Daniel a restful time before your beautiful bundle of joy comes along to keep you awake, busy but loved.

We look forward to meeting him and of course having lots and lots of cuddles.

**Best wishes from  
Mackenna, Kirsty, Michelle and Rosie**

## Reminder

Please do make sure you all take notice of all our news and notice board, they start outside the main entrance and are in all Play rooms and the pre-school lobby.  
Any suggestions gratefully received

## Staff News

Further to the introductions and changes mentioned in the room News, we are happy to introduce **Alison** our new **Administrator** in the Office, you will probably talk to her on the telephone or meet her in the rooms as she is CRB checked and already proving to be very adept at lending a hand in most circumstances. Alison started with us this year and currently works on the office on a Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday and is proving to be a great help in helping us all stay on top of the reams of paperwork that seems to increase not reduce on a weekly basis

We will also be welcoming our new **Deputy Manager, Leanne Shaw**, who comes to us with a wealth of experience and is qualified to Level 5 in Early Years.

Leanne is starting on Monday February 13th and will be working with the team in all the rooms, once she has settled in - more to come in the future.

A Big Welcome to you both from the Busikids Team

