



Countryside Day Nursery Newsletter January 2023

Wow, what a lovely last few weeks in December!

We had a fun packed month preparing for Christmas, we even had a visit from Father Christmas and on Friday 23rd December we thoroughly enjoyed our Christmas lunch cooked by Kay.

We pulled our Christmas Crackers, wore our crowns and listened to some of our favourite Christmas songs. Christmas was a very special time for us all



Big Squirrels went to collect the Christmas trees



On Monday 28th November Big Squirrels went to Ashelworth to collect our trees from Shaun Pitt (one of our ex-parents). Shaun made us so welcome and we were so grateful for his time and letting us choose three trees. We all had fun counting down as he was cutting down the tree with his saw. We had a fabulous morning.



Let it Snow!

We all embraced time to enjoy the snow at Nursery on Monday 12th December, despite it being a little chilly we wrapped up and had lots of fun as you can see from our photographs.



Ladybirds Learning Activities in December



Exploring the sensory trays.



Show time!



Mark making.



Getting creative.



Enjoying exploring the small world animals.



Having funny with Bun-ny!



Popping bubbles is so much fun!



Ladybirds Musical band!



Hedgehogs Learning Activities in December



Enjoying a walk in the meadow to explore the frost followed by cooking some treats in the Mud Kitchen.



Hedgehogs musical band.



Making fruit candy canes.



Exploring the Arctic sensory tray.



Popping bubbles on a frosty morning.



There's nothing quite like a box!



Showing good concentration using tweezers to pick up the Pom-Poms.



Enjoying a book.



I can see you!

Little Squirrels Learning Activities in December



Frozen Day!



Making Christmas Tree decorations.



Practising our cutting skills.



Christmas craft.



Playing games together.



Decorating the tree.



Playing Hide and Seek.



Creating pictures for our Wintery display.



Writing letters to Santa.

Big Squirrels Learning Activities in December



Christmas craft begins!



Creating Christmas tree decorations.



Working together.



Creating Snowmen.



What number is today?



Sticker fun.



Digging for treasure!



Christmas sensory tray fun.



Playing Pass the Parcel.



Making marks in the frost.

Thank you to our parents

Thank you to Oscar

We would like to thank Oscar's parents for very kindly donating some clothes and books.

This was very generous of you and these resources will be greatly used.

Thank you so much for thinking of us.



Thank you to Emily

We would also like to thank Emily very much for kindly donating "Dino" the wheely Dinosaur as well as some books and toys.

We really don't expect anything, but we know the children will enjoy exploring these new resources- thank you.



Thank you to Hugo's Mummy

On Wednesday 14th December, Hugo's Mummy very kindly brought Trev, the family pony along for a recreation of the Christmas Story.

So Trev was pretending to be the donkey and to begin with we had to follow the star (aka sun on the day!!) to Bethlehem to the stable (aka Trev's horsebox) to find Baby Jesus. Which of course we did, thanks to Hugo's Mum's organisational skills, to get Trev out of the horse box and the bales and baby Jesus in!!

We also had the opportunity to have a go at riding Trev, which was so exciting. We then enjoyed Hot Chocolate in the trailer, but gosh it was cold at the end, we were glad to get back inside to the Big Squirrels Room. Thank you so much to Hugo's mummy and Hugo's sister for bringing Trev in to make the afternoon so enjoyable and memorable for our Big squirrel friends.



Hedgehog Parent Days

This month will be Hedgehog Parent Days. (January)

If you would like to discuss with your child's key worker how they are getting along, please email me at info@countysidedaynursery.co.uk and I will ask Tom or Claire to arrange a consultation with you.

Alternatively, please message the Hedgehog staff through Tapestry and they will then arrange a convenient time with you via this method.

Magic Moments

Please let us know if your child has done something exciting at home and we will celebrate it here with a Wow Certificate! It is really wonderful to see our children taking steps forward in their learning and development and they also love sharing their certificates with their friends during Circle Time.

Ladybirds: Congratulations to **Rose** for starting to take independent steps. Well done to **Sidney** for being kind to the new babies. Congratulations to **Wilbur** for helping to tidy up and well done to **Ace** for settling in so well.

Little Squirrels: Well done to **Ottlie T** for helping your friends putting their coats on. Congratulations to **Mia** for demonstrating excellent cutting skills. Well done to **Martha** and **Evie** for including all your friends at playtime and Congratulations to **Ottlie F** for helping Mummy to look after your baby brother.

Big Squirrels: Well done to **Penny** for being a big brave and helpful sister to Rose. Well done to **Bertie** for making his own cream cheese sandwich at home, spreading the cheese, folding over the bread and then cutting it in half.

We are so proud of you all

A very big congratulations to all you superstars!

Funding

Just a reminder that at Countryside children are currently able to access the 15 hours of Nursery Education Funding at the ages of 2, 3 or 4 years. Any unfunded hours at Countryside will be charged at £9-50p per hour from March 2023. At Countryside we offer the 15 hours of Nursery Education Funding and parents are able to access a maximum of 6 hours per day at any one time for a fully funded session time. Please note Countryside does not and is not planning to offer 30 hours of Nursery Education Funding.

Please do look also to see if you are eligible for the Government tax free childcare as this can be a considerable saving from your child's Nursery fees. For more information visit:-

<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/how-to-use-tax-free-childcare/>

And Finally...

On behalf of all the staff at Nursery I would like to thank you very much for all your kind thoughts, gifts and best wishes we received at Christmas. It was very generous of you and we are very grateful for your generosity. Thank you!

And very finally, on behalf of all the staff at Nursery and myself, I would just like to thank you for all of your support during this year and we would like to wish you all a very Happy and Healthy 2023!

Happy New Year!