We have had a busy few months since the start of the New Year and spring is definitely around the corner!!

We have enjoyed celebrating Chinese New Year, Valentines' Day, World Book Day and lots of birthdays at nursery, along with the usual craft activities and fun and games we get up to!!

There are some staff changes to bring to your attention, details of which are below, but we would like to welcome Hollie back (she is doing her Keep In Touch Days one day a week) and welcome Hannah who has joined us on a temporary contract for 6 months, and Jessica who is our new apprentice.

Once again it is going to be a year of change which we are going to embrace with optimism and the opportunity to move forward to continue to be able to offer good quality childcare in this modern society, whilst still holding dear some good old fashioned values. It's all about balance!

And so with tradition in mind...we hope that you like your Mother's Day surprises and Easter goodies...watch this space for when the Easter Bunny Visits Nursery!!!



Staff Update:

Welcome to Angels...

<u>Hannah</u>: We are delighted to welcome Hannah to Angels on a 6 month Contract. Hannah has a Degree in Fine Art – Drawing and Painting and has chosen to pursue a career path working with children. We are looking forward to working with her and seeing the children enjoying and benefitting from her calm and creative nature. Hannah will be based with the under 3s so will work in both Red and Green Rooms

<u>Jessica</u>: We are also delighted to welcome Jessica to Angels as our new apprentice. Jessica will be working predominantly in Pre-School on a part time basis. Jessica has experience of working with children through some college placements and volunteering work she has done. She is an enthusiastic individual with a calm nature and we are looking forward to working with her.

Sad Goodbyes...

Sadly, <u>Vicki</u> (Red Group) will be leaving us on 7th April. Vicki has taken a role with a local Pre-School setting to further her career. We will be very sad to say goodbye to Vicki who has been a real asset to Red Group over the past 2 ½ years. We have seen her grow and develop in Knowledge and confidence and are pleased to let her fly, with her approved "Angel Wings", to the next stage on her journey of life. We wish her well for the future.

If you are leaving your buggies/prams/car seats at nursery in the



Buggy Park area, please can we ask that they are folded or stored neatly along the fence side. A clear exit route through the Buggy Park needs to be

maintained at all times in line with our fire escape policy.





Many thanks

Exciting Extra Activities at Nursery...

Since February we have been delighted to have been working with Sporty Little Stars in Pre-School and Boogie Beats in Red and Green Groups. These are both external activity companies who we have paid to provide extra activities for the children. So far we have funded these out of the commission we received from the Photography Company, with a view to working with them going forward.

The children have loved these sessions. Pre-School have been learning new sports skills on a Wednesday morning outside and Red and Green Group have been enjoying stories brought to life with puppets and music.

We have made the decision to continue with these activities for the next term and will be making a small charge of £2/child per session. This will be added to your nursery invoice on a monthly basis. If you do not wish your child to take part in these sessions please let a member of staff know and we will make alternative arrangements for them while this is taking place.

For more information visit www.boogiebeat.co.uk and www.sportylittlestars.co.uk

Breakfast at Nursery:

Please note that we do not provide breakfast at nursery. If for any reason your child needs breakfast at nursery you are welcome to bring some in for them, however due to staffing we will not be able to offer it until after 9am when all staff are signed in and on duty.

Sainsbury's Vouchers



Please bring in all your Sainsbury's vouchers ... We are collecting again this year!

Funded Places – 30 Free Hours!

You have probably all heard of the new Government initiative - 30 Free Hours of Childcare for working families – due to be introduced in September 2017.

This is good news for working families and will help reduce the cost of childcare. We will be offering the 30 Hours, however we have not yet finalised how we are going to offer this. We need to ensure that we can continue to run a financially viable business whilst offering these increased funded hours.

We will be sending out some more detailed information in due course. In the meantime you may like to find out more information and whether you would be eligible.

www.childcarechoices.gov.uk www.madeformums.com www.foundationyears.org.uk

2 Year Old Funding Available

Funded places for 2 year olds are available at Angel Day Nursery for families on a low income. To find out if you or someone you know qualifies please contact the Family Information Service on **01452 427362** or freephone **0800 542 02 02** and have your National Insurance Number to hand

Free for 3&4's (Nursery Education Funding)

There will be no funding available for 2 weeks over Easter 10th April - 21st April 2017

Funding will be available from Monday 24th April 2017 for children turning 3 between January and end of March 2017 - Information will follow nearer the time with forms to claim the funding