

Spring Term 1

Newsletter

Dates for your Diary

Monday 23rd February—School reopens
Monday 3rd March—Stay and Play sessions
Tuesday 4th March—Stay and Play sessions
Thursday 5th March—World Book Day
Monday 9th March—Parent Meetings
Tuesday 10th March – Parent Meetings
Wednesday 11th March—Croxteth Farm Trip
Sunday 15th March—Mother's Day
Friday 27th March—Last day of term before Easter

Dear Families,

We extend a warm welcome to all the new children who have joined us this half-term. Everyone is settling in very well and making new friends.

Once again, it has been a great half-term with our inside and outside activities. We have been building on our learning through the exciting topics which we have explored and this has included a surprise opportunity to explore and play in the snow!

I would like to take this opportunity again to thank our staff, parents/ carers and all members of the Ditton School community, for their continued support.

Best Wishes, Liane Johnson (Executive Headteacher)

2 Year Olds

This half-term we have been very busy. We have welcomed new children into the setting and have helped them to settle in and familiarise themselves with our nursery routines. The children have been building in confidence, forming relationships with their peers and becoming familiar with their daily routines, which has been lovely to see. We also experienced a big change in the weather, with snow and ice arriving. The children had the opportunity to explore this first-hand by investigating fresh snow and watching as it turned to ice. They enjoyed discovering how it felt and discussing what we could make using the snow and ice, supporting their curiosity and sensory exploration. We have really enjoyed learning about our topic **'People Who Help Us'**. We have explored this in a variety of ways, including being doctors in the role play area. Outdoors, the children worked together to create their own emergency vehicles using a range of crates and loose parts, building large-scale vehicles and developing their imagination and teamwork skills. We also had a very exciting surprise when the local fire service visited to talk to us about their important job. The children were thrilled to explore the fire engine, see the flashing lights and hear the loud siren. Finally, we have been focusing on our core book, **The Gingerbread Man**. The children loved bringing the story to life, using puppets and animals, and they enjoyed joining in with the repeated refrain, *Run, run, as fast as you can, you can't catch me, I'm the Gingerbread Man!*



3-4 Year Olds

We began the half term by talking about what the children had done over Christmas. They were all excited to talk about their presents. They have also been practising their cutting skills by looking through toy catalogues, choosing the ones they like and gluing them onto paper, getting ready for next Christmas!

The topic for the half term has been about people who help us, and the children have been dressing up to carry out the many jobs these people do. It has also enabled them to extend their vocabulary such as 'stethoscope', 'bandage' and 'emergency'. We have been very lucky to have been visited by the local Fire Brigade who talked about the role in helping us and allowed us to explore their uniforms and equipment. The sirens were so loud—we had to put our hands over our ears! We have also been working on repeated refrains in books that the children love **The Runaway Chapati** and **The Gingerbread Man** have reinforced 'run, run as fast as you can'. We have also done lots of counting whilst the children play to show how important it is in everything we do. Well done children!

We hope that you have enjoyed sharing their learning at home by using the Knowledge Organiser, alongside the rhymes and Makaton we share on School Spider. Thank you all for supporting your children and have a happy half-term holiday!



Stay and Play Sessions

Next half term we will be doing our 'Marvellous Maths' stay and play, the dates will be as below.

Monday 2nd March -

Katie, Jen, Jamie-Leigh—2 year room

11am-12pm and 2.45-3.45pm

Tuesday 3rd March

Jane and April—3 year room

9-10am and 12.45-1.45pm

Attendance Hero of the half term!

To be entered into our half termly draw, you need to have at least one week of 100% attendance in that half term.

WELL DONE MAKENNA!



Governor Spotlight

Councillor Tom McInerney



I am Tom McInerney, councillor for Halton Borough Council, I have just renewed my term on the governing body, to stay on for another 3 years.

My role in the council is as an Executive Board Member for Children, Young People and Families. This includes schools, youth provision and children's centres.

Charity Donation—NSPCC

As a Federation, across both of our schools, we raised £ to donate to the NSPCC. We would like to thank everybody for their support and generosity and for taking part in '**Dress for Digits**', helping to raise funds and donate to the NSPCC, to allow them to continue their excellent work.





Wrap Care

Wrap around care is available 8am—5pm. If you would like a space, or to enquire about prices, please speak to Catherine or Lisa in the school office or email: reception@affns.co.uk. Our nursery staff run these sessions and the children have a varied breakfast and a variety of healthy snack options for after school. If you would like to see a menu, please contact the office, or view the website.



2 Year Old Funding

With new government guidelines, from April 2024, working parents may be able to receive 15 funded hours. To check eligibility please visit www.childcarechoices.org.uk

For more information regarding places, please contact the school office.

Attendance

It is really important for children to come to school every day so they are not missing out on important learning and the exciting things we have planned. If your child is not well please get in contact to let us know.



Green (95%+)
is excellent attendance



Amber (94-85%)
is good attendance



Red (below 84%)
is poor attendance

Snack money for this half-term is £10.00. Can we remind parents that snack is in addition to your child's nursery funding so can you please also pay snack for this current half term if you haven't already done so. **Payments can be made:** Half Termly - £10.00 Termly - £20.00 Full Year—£60.00



Payments

Can we ask that all payments (snack money, trip money etc) are paid into the nursery school bank account or through the School Spider app. Please ensure all payments are clearly



Contacts

- Tel: 01514244687 Option 1
- Email: sec@affns.co.uk

Message us through the School Spider Parent App

Dropping off & Picking up of children

Can we just reminder all parents and family members to follow the drop off and pick up times. The purpose of this is so the groups are not continually disturbed during the session

Drop Off

9.00 am
12.45pm

Pick Up

12pm
3.45pm

Privacy Notice

Please find the privacy notice relating to data protection on our noticeboard and website.



Disabled Car Park Spaces

Please do not park in these spaces unless you are registered disabled and are displaying your blue badge. Staff will challenge anyone who is parking here unless they can see badge



Yellow Zig Zags – Parking

Can we ask that parents do not park outside of nursery school on the yellow zig-zags.

These lines are here

