

Little Vikings Children's Centre January 2011



What is happening in the nursery this half term?

Schema and Letters and Sounds Workshops-
26/1/11 at Williton CC
1.45-2.45pm or
28/1/11 at LVCC
9-10.15am

Some parents have asked us to run a workshop to explain about Schemas and Letters and Sounds. Please come along and find out how they influence your child's understanding and how you can support your child's learning.

BEEL Questionnaire

Please can you complete the BEEL questionnaire by **Fri 28/01/11**. We really value your opinion as we evaluate and reflect all we do for you and your child.

Thank you to everyone who completed them in December.

2011:
Year of Communication

2011 is the year to CELEBRATE the findings of recent research, focusing on how best to support children's communication skills. The impact has been so positive that all early years settings are adopting the ethos of the projects explained on the back.

Outdoor environment

Work started on the new design of our outside play area on Tuesday 18th January. Please have a look at the progress being made with your child.



Treasure Chests

All Pelican children will receive a free box of goodies from Book Start. Please enjoy sharing these resources with your child at home.

PEEP-1yrs and under

Monday afternoons for parents/carers with their child. Please ask Natalie and Angela for more information.

Updating policies

Policies are reviewed on a monthly cycle and this month is: Equal Opportunities and Debt. Please read them on the parent notice board and feed back your views to staff. Thank you.

Brunch at the

Community Café in

Williton Children's Centre

Saturday mornings 10-12 fortnightly from 22 Jan.

Spring 1

Issue 3

Special points of Interest:

- ☉ Update on this term
- ☉ Working in partnership
- ☉ Important dates
- ☉ Recap on last term
- ☉ Interesting facts
- ☉ Supporting your child

Important dates:

Schema and letters and Sounds Workshops: 26/01/2011 1.30-2.30pm WCC or 28/01/11 9-10am LVCC
Brunch at WCC café
Saturdays 10am-12noon fortnightly from 22 Jan
Term time only children break up for half term:

Friday 18th February
Term begins:
Monday 28th February
Term time only children break up for Easter:

Friday 8th April
Nursery closed:
Fri 22nd/Mon 25th April
Re-opens for all:
Tuesday 26th April

Working in partnership with parents and carers

CELEBRATION

Ofsted Inspection : Good

Many parents attend sessions at both Williton and Watchet Children's Centres and were involved in meeting the Ofsted team in December. Williton were

really excited to be given a 'good' grade (8 Goods and 7 Outstandings) and would like to thank everyone involved for their hard work and commitment which has now been officially recognised- **WELLDONE !!**

Next meetings:
Advisory Board Meeting

Wednesday 6 April
9.30-11.30 at Williton CC.

Friends of Little Viking's Meeting

Fri 18th February
WCC 9.30-11.30am



Review of last half term

Parent Meetings

Thank you to everyone who met with their child's key worker. The staff found it really interesting to share experiences about your child's progress.

Confident, Capable and Creative

Thank you to all of the parents and children who ventured out in cold and very wet weather!! to have fun learning and exploring in our local environment. Sue and I are so pleased that you benefited so much from the topics that were discussed and we feel so privileged to have learnt so much alongside and from the group.

A few updates...

Every Child a Talker (ECAT)

Have produced a grid that links language development to the stages of development in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). It divides language into 4 areas:

Listening and Speaking

Understanding

Talking

Social Communication

It high-lights the importance of singing songs and rhymes, telling and reading lyrical stories, joining musical activities and playing with sounds.

Did you know...

Health visitors are concerned as some new born babies aren't recognising their mother's voice.

Be active!! This helps develop a healthy brain that then supports all round learning and development.

Christmas sing-a-long

Thank you to everyone who supported this new event. We have had so much positive feedback about it. A big thank you to all who made the mince pies and to the children for being such stars!



Early Years Somerset Total

Communication (EYSTC)

We will all be using more signing, gestures, props when we read stories or sing songs and rhymes. Having a multi- sensory approach supports the range of learning styles children (and adults) use.

Letters and Sounds

Phase 1 encourages us to support children in tuning into, describing and exploring everyday sounds they hear and create. The children also have lots of fun changing the words of familiar songs, stories and rhymes.

It is really important that young children wear un- restrictive clothing and have times with bare feet, so that they can freely move in ways that are so natural to them!

Singing engages both parts of the brain- One side for the tune and one for the words.

Labels

Thank you to everyone who HAS labeled their child's belongings. It really does help us make sure all children have the correct things!

Pelican parents

Thank you for letting us know that you have applied for your child to attend school in Sept 2011 and for telling the school that they will be attending, so that we can meet with the relevant Reception teachers to plan a smooth transition for all. Confirmation of school placements will be out from County in April.

Advice from Speech Therapists :

T-Talk together as equal partners with your child/ren

A-Attention and listening- use visual clues and bend down to be face to face with your child

L- simplify your Level of language

K- Keep on commenting—1 question and 4 comments- WAIT/ LISTEN...Give children time to respond.

You can influence your child's success by having fun...

Exploring the world around you and taking time to listen and share your child's excitement in the amazing world we live in...

Where children listen and hear the beat of music, it has a positive impact on learning and achievement. So clap the beat as you sing, give instructions, say rhymes...

For more information please ask staff at the nursery.