

1st Steps Newsletter

November 2009

DATES TO REMEMBER

LEARNING LINKS TOY SALE 3.30PM	1ST DEC
PARENTS EVENING 6.00—8.00PM	1ST DEC
PENGUIN CHALLENGE	21ST DEC
CHRISTMAS PARTY 2.00PM	23ST DEC
<u>CLOSING TIMES</u> CHRISTMAS EVE AND NEW YEARS EVE WILL BE AT 4.00 PM. CLOSING ON BANK HOLIDAYS ONLY.	24TH DEC & 30TH DEC

OFTSED RESULTS ARE GOOD!

At last, we have been visited by Ofsted and all went well. The outcome of the inspection was good.

The report highlighted many strengths. In particular,

- Children are well cared for in a safe, secure and welcoming environment.

- Nursery awarded top rating by the Environmental Health Agency for their food provision.

- A healthy lifestyle is promoted throughout the setting.

- Children throughout the nursery are happy, settled and secure. They enjoy the

time they spend at nursery, making good relationships with staff and each other.

- Language and communication skills are strongly promoted throughout all aspects of nursery life.

The inspector was very relaxed and made the staff and children feel at ease. The day went without a 'hitch' and all of our children seemed to be on their best behaviour and chatted freely to her.

Bev and myself would like to thank all of the parents that spoke to the inspector. You obviously answered her questions well and said lots of nice things about us.

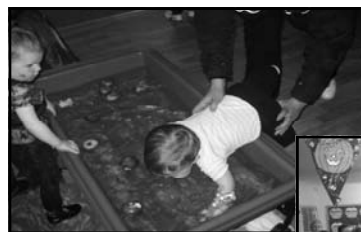
We would also like to say a big thank you once again to all of our staff who work extremely hard to care for your children on a daily basis.



HALLOWEEN

Again, our Halloween party was a great success and a good time was had by all. It was well attended with over 50 children in fancy dress accompanied by their parents. There were bags to decorate, ap-

ples to bob for both in water and on strings, mummies to wrap and slimy goo to investigate. Some children were braver than others! Also, trick or treat and other goulsh games around the nursery.



OUR SENSORY ROOM HAS A MAKE OVER.

Lisa has joined us on her placement from Liverpool Hope University . She will be working in all of our rooms for about 8 weeks at a time. Her first room has been rooms 5 & 6 and she has been looking at our sensory room and how to improve it .

With the help of the children the sensory room was sorted and the stock was re-arranged. Lisa had a long talk to the children about what

they would like to have in our sensory room and a list was drawn up.

One of the items the children made was washed out drinks bottles filled either with coloured water and glitter or with dried pasta or rice. Have a go at home, its fun to do!

A shopping list was also put together with the input of the children, and a plan of which shops they

needed to go to. An afternoon was set a-side for this shopping trip The final part was to just add some finishing touches to the room.

By using the sensory room, the children will use all their senses to explore and will build on their existing skills. The sensory room provides a calming atmosphere for all our children and a place they can go to relax.

FIRE ENGINE VISIT AND THE MOBILE ZOO.

On Thursday 29th October it was arranged that the fire brigade would visit us here in nursery. They arrived along with the fire engine. Room 5 watched a video about fire safety and had a little talk to the fire officer. While room 6 and holiday club went out to look at the fire engine. Both groups had a chance to hold and use the hose and Alex's car got a good wash down. They had the lights going as well as the siren! Fun was had by all, even the staff had the chance to see the men in uniform!



That afternoon, the mobile zoo also came for a visit . He went into room 5 & 6 again along with holiday club first, then into room 3 for the children downstairs to have a look. The children got to see lizards, snakes and an owl. All the children who wanted to could touch or hold the animals, some were braver than others! He talked about the animals, what they ate and where they came from. The owl seemed to be the favourite, with the snakes coming in a close second.

OTHER NEWS.....



Would you like to go Christmas shopping without your little angels on a Saturday? We are offering 3 Saturdays of child care price £25 per day. Available- Saturday 5TH, 12TH & 19TH Dec. Book ASAP as places are limited. Payment is in advance. Speak to the office, or see Christina for further information.

Thank you for your support in our skycycle collections we raised £52.51

The other two charity

events in the past few months have been Jeans for Genes which we collected £74.52 and children in need £72.40

Say a big hello to Donna our new cook who most of you will never meet but is making us some lovely meals and puddings.

Liverpool will be host to lots of colourful penguins this year and we need you to hunt them down and if

possible take photos of your child with a penguin and bring them in for us to display .

This year we are setting you a challenge; a penguin challenge.

If you take up this challenge, you are to make a penguin at home and bring it in on 21st Dec. Best

