

Newsletter: Friday 17th January 2025



Dear Parents/Carers,

When children start with a childcare provider, they must follow The EYFS Statutory Framework; this sets out the standards that childcare providers and schools must meet for the learning, development and care of children from birth to 5. From this, a setting may write their own curriculum planning, outlining what they want children to learn in the time they are with them, to ensure that they give the children a better experience, covering all EYFS areas of learning, according to the pedagogy of the provider.

Over the last six weeks, the staff have been working tirelessly to write a progressive, biennial rolling programme for Stockland and Yarcombe Preschool, outlining how we plan to deliver the seven areas of the framework. Within this rolling programme we have created a curriculum for our setting, providing activities, play, teaching and experiences that help all children learn, develop and thrive. You can find these new documents on our website at: <https://stocklandpreschool.co.uk/policies-and-procedures/early-years-foundation-stage-eyfs>. Here, you will find our topic overview for both Year A and Year B, detailed planning for Year A (including key vocabulary, key texts, immersive experiences, significant activities across the seven areas, key experiments, music and much more), a synopsis for Spring Term A and our reading spine.

In other news, did you know that 18th January 2025 is Winnie the Pooh Day? Celebrated on author A. A. Milne's birthday, Winnie the Pooh Day celebrates the beloved honey-obsessed bear with readings and teddy bear's picnics. Will you be celebrating with a teddy bear's picnic? We'd love to see some of your photos if you do! For now, here are some much-loved quotes from Winnie The Pooh:

- "If ever there is a tomorrow when we're not together, there is something you must always remember. You are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem and smarter than you think. But the most important thing is even if we are apart, I'll always be with you."
- "How do you spell love? You don't spell it, you feel it."
- "As soon as I saw you, I knew that a grand adventure was about to happen."

Finally, as we prepare to make the most of the changing weather/seasons, breathing new life into our garden and raised bed, we would be grateful for any donations of top soil and compost. Thank you.

Update

- Reading: Book Recommendations - *The Night Flower - Lara Hawthorne*. With our continuing focus on reading culture in school, we will continue to recommend books to our families, with a view to trying to widen pupils' interest in different genres and authors, supporting parents to know new authors and as ideas for gifts. If you share one of these books with your child in the future, we would love to hear from them! Let us know what they thought of the book and we can share it on Facebook.



- A huge thank you to everyone who supported the quiz night on Wednesday, and in particular to Ella, for organising this excellent event!

To summarise... The pie was delicious, the quiz was challenging (to say the least), the company superb and we raised £170. Well done!



- There has been much press in recent months about children's mental health. As part of our drive to support this we are going to include something each month in the newsletter about Health and Wellbeing. We hope you find this section useful. If you have any topics you would like us to find some helpful tips about, please let us know.



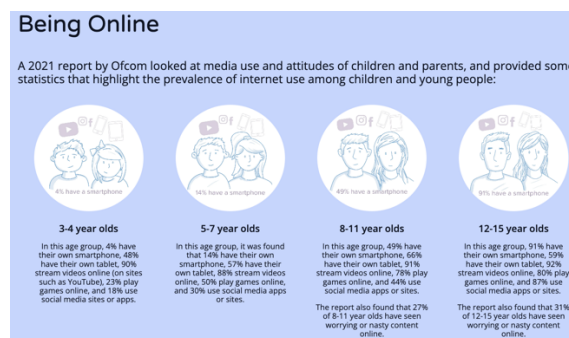
Children who experience poor mental health often find the ways that they think, feel, or react become challenging, or even impossible to cope with.

Sadly, many children do not have good mental health. In 2020, one in six children aged 5 to 16 years were found to have a probable mental health disorder, an increase from one in nine in 2017 (The NHS Mental Health of Children and Young People in England survey, 2020).

We know that prioritising good mental health in children and young people is vital, as a child's emotional health and wellbeing influences their cognitive development, mental wellbeing, and their physical and social health.

In children, mental health disorders are usually considered to be delays or disruptions in developing thinking behaviours, social skills, or regulation of emotions that are age-appropriate. These disruptions are distressing for children and young people and often affect their ability to function well at home, school, or in social situations.

- Safeguarding Information: Keeping under-fives safe online.



Tips, advice, guides and resources to help keep your child safe online... As a parent or carer you play a key role in helping your child to stay safe online. You don't need to be an expert on the internet to help keep your child stay safe online. The advice and resources here could support you as you support your child to use the internet safely, responsibly and positively: <https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>.

Reminders

- We are now accepting children from 18 months old; we would be grateful to you continuing to share this fantastic news with any parents/carers that you think may be interested in accessing this provision.
- Breakfast Club now runs Monday – Friday, 8.00 – 8.40.
- If your child attends After School Club, please send them with an additional snack. Thank you.
- We are outside a lot and sometimes we get rather messy at preschool when using resources such as paint and water as part of our learning. Please can you ensure that your child/ren have plenty of warm, spare clothes in their bags as the weather gets even wetter and muddier, so that we can keep them clean and warm!

- Partnership with Parents: No one knows your child better than you, so our partnership with parents is integral to our way of working. We look forward to talking with you in our termly parents' meetings/telephone consultations; our aim is to ensure you have the time to discuss your child's individual needs and progress with their appointed key person. However, our 'open-door' policy means that parents are welcome to come and speak to us at any time. We promote home learning, and encourage parents to participate and contribute to their child's development, sharing information on a daily basis through Tapestry and face-to-face.
- Please do remember that I welcome any suggestions that you may have with regards to improving our offer. For example, is there anything that you would like to see us doing which currently is not in place? How do the hours suit your needs? I am keen to ensure that we support our families with the best provision possible.

Snaps

We're going on a bear hunt... making musical sound effects, acting out the story using key phrases and making bears!



STEM Welly Investigation!



Welly Walk Wednesday...

In the words of one of our little walkers "We went further!" We went on a bear /squirrel hunt! What a beautiful day! We weren't scared. We found a bridge with a splashy sploshy splishy river and a waterfall, a squelchy muddy puddle, long wavy grass, a funny hole, a slippy tree stump, a squeaky gate, two chirping blue tits, two owls, two speedy squirrels, one fox, one gold dinosaur and a thatcher tidying up straw! What fun! The children were absolutely fabulous when using the language that they have learnt from our book of the week whilst walking around the village, as well as adding their own super words and phrases.



Making Jam Tarts



Letter and Number Formation



Squirrel Hunt!



Timetable

Make It Monday



Introducing our key text for the week... The Three Little Pigs. Explore the new vocabulary from the story: Discuss the meaning of the words, how many syllables and the initial sound. Rhyming using the words 'pig', 'brick' and 'bad'. Sequencing the story using pictures. Making puppets and models to retell the story. Discuss feelings and emotions. Using symbols to make sentences and write our own story. Cardinal numbers: Suitcase Counting. Ordinality: Counting forwards and backwards to 10. Writing our name on a brick.

Tinkering Tuesday



STEM Activity: Introducing architectural design and engineering concepts through 6 challenges.

1. Create a straw house out of plastic straws and play dough.
2. Build a stick house using lolly sticks and tape.
3. Engineer a brick house with building bricks.
4. Create a house of scraps out of card, paper rolls/tubes and tape.
5. Build a glass house using magnetic tiles.
6. Engineer a concrete house with cardboard and tape.

STEM stands for science, technology, engineering and math. STEM can refer to the subjects individually or one or more working together, but can also mean a way of doing things that includes solving problems, asking questions, and exploring the world around us. In EYFS, STEM generally fall under the specific area of learning known as 'Understanding the World'. This is all about getting children to engage in the world around them. The goal is to help them understand the big ideas and concepts that most adults take for granted.

Welly Walk Wednesday & PE with Mr Murnane

Hunting for dens and transient art on a larger scale.
What can we find to make a picture of a house?
Can we make a house big enough to play in?



Thinking Thursday

Making muddy straw stack treats.

Fresh Air Friday

Making houses for The Three Little Pigs using the natural resources that we find outside! Whose will be the sturdiest? Whose will be the cosiest? Will any be waterproof? Will any other animals choose to move in to these structures over the weekend?



Dates for the Diary

- Toddler Group – Our Great Britain: Friday 24th January 2025, 9.00 – 11.00.
- Parent Consultations: Tuesday 11th February 2025 and Wednesday 12th February 2025.
- Toddler Group – LOVE: Friday 14th February 2025, 9.00 – 11.00.
- February Half Term: 17th February 2025 - 21st February 2025.
- Shrove Tuesday - Pancake Races: 4th March 2025, 2.45 – 3.15.
- School Cross Country: Wednesday 6th February 2025 (early finish/pick up).
- Toddler Group – Colours, Love and Spring (Holi): Friday 4th March 2025.
- School Cross Country: Wednesday 19th March 2025 (early finish/pick up).
- Toddler Group – Easter & GRAND EGG HUNT: Friday 4th April 2025.
- Last Day of Spring Term: Friday 4th April 2025.
- Summer Term Begins/Return To School: Tuesday 22nd April 2025.



Contact Details

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info@stocklandpreschool.co.uk

Safeguarding

If you have any safeguarding concerns, please email jemma@stocklandpreschool.co.uk. This inbox is monitored daily. Our Designated Safeguarding Lead is Jemma Harvey-Jones and our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads are Kelly Patch and Alice Hutter. Our Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy can be found online at: <https://stocklandpreschool.co.uk/policies-and-procedures/safeguarding>. If you have any concerns about the safety of a child you can either talk to our DSL or DDSL or you can phone Devon MASH on 01392 384964.

CORE COMMITTEE

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To contact any other members of our team please email the info@stocklandpreschool.co.uk account and your queries will be forwarded appropriately.