



NEWSLETTER

February 2016

Dear Parents/Carers,

Our children have been very busy enjoying the wind and rain in the garden which coincided quite nicely with our theme of water! We have now had the drain cleared, so hopefully there will be less accumulation of water in the playground.

The children have enjoyed using our new metal detectors in the garden – thanks fundraisers!

The tooth brushing activity was enjoyed by all and glitter on the hands made the handwashing activity quite effective.

Next week we will be investigating Chinese New Year, learning a Chinese song, making a Dragon mask (thanks to Leo's mummy, Camilla for guidance with this) and enjoying Chinese snacks. However, as Tuesday 9th February is Shrove Tuesday, we would like to ask each child to bring in a small frying pan to participate in a Pancake race around the garden – a toy one will be fine! We will also serve pancakes for snack – not the ones used in the garden!

The Lost Property tray in the cloakroom is getting quite full – please can you check its contents (Hungry Caterpillar fork, a rattle, dog wallet, socks and hats) as items left at the end of term will be donated to charity.

As preparation for 'school readiness' please could we ask you to ensure that all your child's items which are left in the cloakroom – ie. Coats, shoes, boots, bags, gloves and scarves – are named please? It is very difficult for staff to ensure each child has their own belongings if they are not named. Some children also have the same or similar items so it is very helpful if we can clearly see who they belong to. Thank you.

Also in preparation for school, we are spending time with the children developing their independence, in particular putting on their own footwear and coats, and managing their own buttons, zips, straps and buckles. The children are responding very well and are enjoying their accomplishments – I am sure they would like to demonstrate their new found skills at home too!

We would like to thank all parents who respected our policy of keeping their children at home for 48 hours after sickness and /or diarrhoea. This has resulted in fewer children becoming sick, and the illness passing us fairly quickly. Thank you.

Could you please ensure that all packed lunches and food brought into the setting is **NUT FREE.**

In the event of severe weather advice of school closures can be found on the Crowmarsh Gifford C of E School website, Oxfordshire County Council website and local radios – Radio Oxford, Heart FM and Jack FM. As a general rule, if school is closed, Pre-school is also closed.

Thank you to all who completed and returned the SEF questionnaire – I will be re-issuing this shortly in a more user friendly format. Please do look out for it and let us have your feedback.

Our lovely, dedicated and fun committee have organised a Social Evening in The Queen's Head on Wednesday 10th February from 8pm and welcome ALL parents to come along for an informal, fun and relaxed evening.

Our next Open Morning is Tuesday 1st March at 9.30am – 10.30am. Please do spread the word amongst your friends and neighbours.

Our next Parent's Evening will be held in Pre-school week commencing 14th March. Full details to follow shortly.

The photographer will be visiting on Tuesday 22nd March from 9.45am. This visit is usually to take casual black and white photos of the children playing, and a group photo of our Rising 5's. Again, full details will follow in the March Newsletter.

This term ends on Friday 12th February, and Term 4 begins on Monday 22nd February.

Dilys Beaumont
Manager

