



Four Seasons

NURSERIES

Autumn Update 2010

Dear Parents,

I think the weather and dark evenings tell us that autumn is well and truly here. All the rooms will be celebrating this exciting season with walks to observe the changes and collect leaves. Predictably, I have already been on a forage and will be discussing acorns, beech nuts and chestnuts with the older children. When you are out and about please collect any interesting autumnal items and bring them in. At the same time take some photos that we can add to our home links walls. We have decided to rename our interest tables as curiosity corners – a much more potent description of their use.

I have attended several conferences recently and have been inspired by some great academics. There is so much research currently taking place on brain development and how crucial good quality interaction is. I have been part of a national advisory group revising documentation for the under threes – a challenging task. Several parents have expressed an interest in what I have been doing. So we are planning to develop some information on attachment and communication with the under threes. This will probably be in e-mail format with links to relevant sites. If you have any comments please let me know.

I will be running my annual Curriculum for Excellence workshop for any interested parents. We discuss the framework and the implications for our children. I also give you some tips for preparing your child to read and write. This will be on Thursday 7th October at 5pm at the Cadogan Street nursery. It is very informal.

The nursery at Skypark had an inspection in June and I am delighted to report 4 excellent grades out of the 4 quality themes inspected. Cadogan Street and Spectrum are due their inspections imminently. The Care Commission Officer does like to speak to parents so you might be accosted! It is a busy time ensuring self evaluation documentation is returned within a very short timescale. From April there will be a new inspection body and also from November a new Public Vetting Agency – more changes to implement.

We have had some more volunteers for our Parents' Forum. If you would like to join just e-mail the Forum at forum@fourseasonsnurseries.co.uk. The fete on Saturday 2nd October is run by the parents so we want a great turn-out to support our chosen charity. Please remember to bring in bottles, unwanted toys and books and baking – we need your help! The forum is also helping with making decisions on our Medication Policy and Procedure. Please feedback any comments either to the forum or myself.

Staff news includes news about babies. Carolanne and Diane both had boys and Tracey has just had a girl. Our newest Modern Apprentices have settled in well.

The observant among you will have noticed that each room now displays who is on duty that day. Our college placements and work experience pupils all wear name badges.

As ever, I am always available if you wish to discuss any aspect of the running of your nursery.

Inez Murray