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| sawston_logo_white background | Image result for pictures of winter scenes  **Newsletter**  **Issue Number 186**  Image result for january pictures**2019** |

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to our January Newsletter and a Happy New Year to everyone.

We hope you all had a lovely Christmas and enjoyed spending time with family and friends.

So, let’s find out what’s in store for January 2019 across the Nursery.

**A Message from the Buttercup Room (Babies)**

Welcome back everyone and a Happy New Year from us all in the Buttercup Room.

In January 2019, we will be basing our activities and learning opportunities around ‘Winter’. Babies will be able to *‘have a go’* at exploring shaving foam play, ice play, creating cloud pictures through using a variety of textured materials and paint. We will also be singing some winter songs and sharing winter stories.

***A polite reminder to all adults, please remove your shoes or use the blue covers provided when you enter the Buttercup Room.***

**A Message from the Bluebell Room**

Welcome back to the Bluebell Room everyone and best wishes to you all for a Happy New Year.

This month we welcome Marsha to our room. Marsha will be working on a Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday so please come and introduce yourself and say hello.

January is the start of our ‘Winter’ theme and we will be carrying out lots of wintery activities such as looking and playing with winter animals, sensory activities such as plants and scenery and lots more. Keep a look out on our board outside our room to find out what we have been ‘up to’. As it gets colder please ensure your child has warm clothes for outdoor play to ensure they are kept warm.

**A Message from the Daffodil Room**

Welcome back everyone to Daffodil Room and we hope you had a lovely Christmas and lots of fun with your family and friends.

This month we will be talking about ‘Winter’ with the children and they will have the opportunity to join in with a variety of exciting activities, which will include attempting to build our own igloo in the home corner together using material and any other items we can find. In addition, we will be creating individual ‘Frosty pictures using chalks, for mark making’ and sorting winter and cold colours, which we will see displayed on the walls. All the activities on offer will promote the children’s development and learning in the Daffodil Room.

If you have any furry throws, white cushions or an old flask you do not use any more we would like these items for the children to use in their imaginative play and would gratefully take these off your hands. You may even have your own ideas on how to make our Igloo inviting for the children so please share your thoughts with us.

**A Message from Poppy Room**

We hope all our families had a very Happy Christmas and would like to wish you all a very happy New Year for 2019.

Our topic for January 2019 is all about Winter and winter animals. We will be talking about snow, ice and how animals live is such cold conditions. Children will have the opportunity to develop their understanding of cold climates through conversations, stories and reference books. We will also talk about Antarctica and frozen places. Furthermore, playing with white playdough and tools for the children will prompt questions such as “Can you roll a snowball?” “Can you build a snowman?” “Can you make frosty or snowflake patterns?”

Please could we ask that the children all have warm coats, hats, and welly boots for outdoor play and walks. Finally, please ensure your child’s bag has some spare clothes inside.

**A Message from Sunflower Room**

Happy New Year to all our families and friends at Sawston Nursery.

Please note that a newsletter from Sunflower Room will be sent out to all parents informing you of events that will take place and inform you all what the children are up to in the New Year.

Primarily throughout January 2019 in the Sunflower Room, we will be concentrating on creating children’s independence. For example, putting on our own coats and shoes. We will also be developing listening skills in the classroom through play opportunities. We ask that you encourage your child at home to practice these skills, which will support them well for the transition onto primary school later in the year.

Can we ask that all children please have spare clothes in their bags just in case they have an accident or their clothes get wet. Please ensure your child has wellies or outdoor shoes to put on if they choose to play outside. In addition, if you have borrowed nursery clothes please can you ensure you return these to us as soon as possible. We do need these returned.

**Staff News**

Krystina M who worked mostly in the Daffodil Room in a temporary cover role and Clare M who worked in the Bluebell Room left the nursery on Friday 21st December 2018. Krystina will be working in a nursery closer to her home and Clare will be going off travelling once again. We wish them both well for the future.

There will be some slight changes to staffing in January 2019, which you should be aware of as an e-mail was sent to all parents recently. However, if you have any questions please ask and if your child’s key person has changed, you would have been informed by the Room Leader.



**Facebook**

Just a reminder to all families that we have a closed Facebook group for parents/carers whose children currently attend the nursery.

So, if you want to join us go to the Sawston Nursery page and put in your request. This is a good place to share ideas and ask questions about child development and the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum.

**Repairing the mound (We Need Your Help!)**

The cost for the repair will be approximately, **£4000** so any ideas for fundraising you may have please come and talk to us. We would love to hear from you and we do need your support.

Please be aware that we need parents to come forward and join our SNAP group committee to continue and support the nursery. We desperately need more funds and a group to organise fund raising events on behalf of the nursery, working closely with our staff. If you feel you can spare some time please come and talk to Tina, Michelle or Zoe at the nursery who can give you more information about the group if needed. We do not want this group to close as we do rely on SNAP to support us and without additional funds; we are unable to provide new resources and repairs such as the mound in the garden area.

**New Starters**

If your child has recently started at the nursery, please do not hesitate to talk to the staff members in the classroom about how he/she is settling and any concerns you may have.

We understand that parting with your child at nursery can be an anxious time for some parents, so we are happy for you to call the nursery during the day where we can transfer you to your child’s classroom and give you an update on their day. Just pick up the phone and call us on – **01223 472018** – we are happy to help. However, please can we ask you to try not to call between 12.00pm-2.00pm as the younger children are asleep and it is a very busy time during the lunch period for staff. If you call and receive no answer please leave us a message and we will ensure that someone returns your call.

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| **Happy January Birthday to:**  **Matilda H-W. Lucas B. Mollie D. Eleanor B.**  **Happy January Birthday to our staff:**  **Katie L. Michelle W. Danielle P. Amy S. Carla G.**  **Tina S.** |

**Employee of the month nominations for January 2018:**

This month our nominations go to the following staff:

**Shania Moorcroft** – Managers Award for using initiative and completing tasks set by management.

**Shani Wright** – Parent Nomination for going the extra mile and ensuring the children in the room are happy and settled.

If you wish to nominate a member of staff throughout the year for anything, which you feel, deserves this recognition, please feel free to e-mail us or speak to ***Tina as we appreciate your feedback.***



**Some Important Dates for your Diary 2019**

Staff Training Day 2nd January 2019

Nursery Re Opens 3rd January 2019

Grandparents week 18th – 22nd February 2019

Further information will be sent to you regarding the above events via e-mail so please keep a look out for details.

**Thank you for your continued support and all the staff at Sawston Nursery would like to wish you a Happy New Year for 2019**

**Best Wishes from**

***Tina and the Sawston Team***

