

Read all about it...

Spring 2017



News from Macclesfield's favourite day nursery!

Welcome

We'd like to say a big hello and welcome to the newest members of our Footprints Family: Ahaan, Kody, William, Noah, Zachary, Felicity, Annabelle, Alexander, Zach, Lara, Dara, Heidi, Wren, Lilian, Finn, William, Jacob, Lucas, Macey, Liam, Jake and Reuben. You're all doing so well and settling in beautifully. Mums and Dads, please let us know if there is anything at all that we can help with!

Please get in touch if there's anything you'd like to share with us or any questions you may have by emailing faith.robyn@footprintsnurseries.co.uk

Dates for the Diary:

19th June - Father's Day Stay and Play **9-10.30am**

3rd July - Graduation photographer here for Pre School leavers

7th July - Raising money for Pumping Marvellous - wear red or anything with hearts

14th July - Pre School Graduation at the Masonic Hall **1.30pm**



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Pre School Graduation

Our Graduation service for the Pre School children who are leaving for school this September will be held at **1.30pm on Friday 14th July**. This event will take place at the Masonic hall and promises to be a lovely opportunity for you and your children to get excited together about the new milestone in their lives. So that we can send them off in true Footprints style, there will be an entertainer coming to nursery on that Friday followed by a party lunch.

We will also be having professional photographs taken of the school leavers in their graduation gowns on Monday 3rd July between 10am and 12pm. If Monday's not your day, please feel free to pop in and have your picture taken. Alternatively, you can go to the studio and have one taken on a day that suits you. The photographs will be ready for you to buy on the day of graduation if you like them.

If your child is leaving this September and they do not attend on a Friday, please bring them along at 9.15am to enjoy the day with us. If your child is here on a Friday but is not going to school this September, they will be able to enjoy the party but will stay at the nursery for the service.

The service should last for around 45 minutes and there will be tea and cake afterwards so stay for a while if you can. There will be free parking in the Masonic hall on the day so don't worry about where to leave your car. Let us know if you're planning on bringing guests, the more the merrier!

LearningBook



LearningBook has some very exciting news! Over the past year they have been working with us and their other customers to bring you the option of printing your child's learning journey into hardback books!

Celebrate your child's achievements throughout their time at Footprints with these wonderful keepsakes. Pick up a leaflet from the front desk or ask one of the team for more information.

Please don't forget to regularly log in to My LearningBook to view and comment on your child's learning journey. If you can, add your own photographs too!



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Staff Member of the Month

We'd all like to say a big thank you and well done to Hope in our Toddler Room! Hope has been nominated by her colleagues as being an exceptional nursery nurse and a wonderful team player. Thank you for everything you do Hope, you are very much appreciated. If there is a member of staff you would like to put forward for staff member of the month, please send an email and let us know.



Staff Success – Charlotte's promotion

Charlotte Bailey's journey at Footprints began in 2009 when she came to us as a student. Eight years later, Charlotte is a valuable and experienced member of the team who has worked so hard in supporting and loving your children over the years. Charlotte's passion for the children and her degree in Early Childhood Studies, makes her the ideal Baby Room Manager and we're really proud to tell you that that she has been promoted! Well done Charlotte, here's to many more years together.



First Aid

Keeping your children safe forms a very important part of our role here at Footprints. We want you to be able to rest in the knowledge that your children are in the safest possible hands whilst you're not here and for that reason, we take our first aid training very seriously. Over the next two Saturdays, Charlotte, Cassy, Hope, Lauren, Nikki, Chloe and Lucy will be receiving training in paediatric first aid from Millie's Trust. If your key person isn't on the list, it's because they're already trained and ready to help if they were ever needed. If you have any questions about our training or would like to know more about first aid, please speak to your teams and we'll be happy to help.



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Engaging Boys in Writing

Did you know, research suggests the bones in boys' hands develop when they are around 5 and a half years old whereas the bones in girls' hands, develop at around 4 years old? That's quite a big difference! This might be a reason why girls seem more willing and able to draw and make marks at nursery whilst boys seem more reluctant. It could also mean that the things we often expect boys to do in terms of mark making, are actually beyond their physical capabilities!

Interestingly, the journey of children's bone development starts at their shoulder, travels to their elbow, then their wrist and finally finishes in their hand. This means that if we rush into holding pencils and pens before the other parts of our arm are ready, we may be doing more harm than good.

At nursery, we encourage all the children (but particularly the boys) to get outside and explore mark making. We strengthen shoulder and elbow muscles by allowing them to scrub the walls with soapy water, buckets, brooms and sponges, encouraging big circular and up and down shoulder movements.

Also, attaching magazine pictures of cars or favourite characters to the wall outside and filling a spray bottle with water. This helps boys to concentrate on edges and outlines, following the shape with the spray.

Another great idea is using clay alongside pictures of cars and toy cars, car manuals, car books etc. and encouraging boys to strengthen hand and wrist muscles by making models of what they can see. Using books here helps boys to recognise that print carries meaning to things that are of interest to them.

If you want to have a go at home, why not make mark making more adventurous and exciting by using an empty Pringle tube and turning it into a challenge tube! Ask your child to cut and snip pictures of their favourite things from an Argos catalogue and cover the tube with them. Attach a strap so that the tube is supported across your child's back (safely and not around their neck), then fill the tube with pencils, pens, rubbers, sharpeners, highlighters, stickers etc. and go out exploring with your challenge tube. You'll be surprised how much more enthusiastic they become when their bones are ready and we make it meaningful for them!

Have a go and let us know how you get on.....



Top Tips for Talking

Here's Top Tip number 4...

Ten Tips to develop children's speech and language



Use
the full range
of expression

Tip No 4

Speak in a lively, animated voice and use gestures and facial expressions to back up your words. You'll be giving more clues about what your words mean, which can be very useful if the child is struggling to understand language. You'll also be demonstrating the importance of non-verbal communication.



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Social Media

If you have access to social media and would like to see what activities are going on in our nursery day to day, then please like us on Facebook and on Twitter.

 www.facebook.com/FootprintsDayNurseries  www.twitter.com/FootprintsDN

Take care and see you soon,
Faith



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