

Stoneygate Nursery School



February 2025

Spring Newsletter 3

With half-term creeping upon us, we can honestly say we don't know where January has gone! This week the children are busy enjoying lots of Valentine's provision; we are definitely feeling the love here in nursery. We hope you can join us next week for our special Valentine's Stay and Play session!

Dates for the Diary

SEND Group: *Colourful Footsteps*

Thursday 6th and 13th February 1pm–2.30pm

Valentine's Stay and Play session:

Wednesday 12th Feb 10–11am and 2–3pm – if your child is not in on a Wednesday, please still come along and join us!

Progress Meetings:

Please see Class DoJo for further info.

Nursery closes for half term:

Friday 14th February 3.30pm

Nursery reopens:

Monday 24th February 8.30am

Our lovely Fishy Friends!

We have some new friends who have joined us in nursery!



If you have not seen our new 'fishy' additions, please pop into our entrance hall with your child and say hello next time you come in. Our 8 new fish, that were added this week, are very colourful and quite big! We welcome any name suggestions... we have had one suggestion of Connor!

Children's Mental Health Week

This week is Children's Mental Health Week; an awareness week in association with the children's charity, Place2Be. At such a young age, it is hard to think of mental health affecting your child/ren, however tips such as talking about feelings and ways in which to manage them or, for non-verbal children, using visuals such as emojis or flashcards to help label feelings can be a great start in ensuring your child develops strategies to better cope with everyday challenges. For more tips and advice, please visit:

<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/families/>

Spotlight on: pre-writing skills

Pre-writing shapes are the lines and shapes a child needs to be able to draw, prior to learning to write letters and words. They are the shapes which form letters, such as straight and curved lines. Pre-writing shapes include the directional movements a child needs to make to be successful with writing.

Before drawing shapes however, a child starts to scribble. Scribbling helps them to understand how to make marks. It helps them to know that when their hand moves, a mark occurs on the page. Usually, children start with vertical (up and down) type scribble first, as this is easiest. Next, they will learn how to scribble horizontally (side to side), before eventually combining these two movements and making circular scribble.

Pre Writing Shapes



1-2 years



2-3 years



3 years



3 years



4 years



4 years
4 months



4 years
6 months



4 years
7 months



4 years
11 months



5 years
3 months

The age below each shape is the average age at which 50% of children will be able to draw the shape, so it is expected half of children will be slower than the ages given.

Why not try and encourage your child to mark-make/draw at home? An easy activity that both strengthens hand muscles and develops those important skills ready for school!

Polite Reminder

All parents: please can we ask that if you are sitting/waiting in our reception area, that you do not open the front door for other parents, even if you know the parent. This is in line with our safeguarding roles, responsibilities and duty of care.

Thank you for your cooperation and support with this.

Uniform

We have had lots of new starters joining us so far this term so we thought we would share our uniform information again in case you have not seen it! If you would like to purchase any of our uniform, then please feel free to pop into the office where there is a range on display and Janet, our lovely Office Manager, will be happy to help you!

T-shirts: £8.25

Sweatshirts: £10

Hoodies: £11.50



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