



Sandcastles News

Issue 10

Winter 2012

A note from Cindy

The dark nights are setting in fast and the anticipation of a certain bearded jolly fellow is starting to take pace as the countdown to **the festive season hot's up.**

At sandcastles we love this time of year and as the end of 2012 draws ever closer it brings about a time of reflection. At sandcastles we have been very blessed this year, we have watched our children grow and become more confident little people, we have welcomed new families into our midst and waved bon voyage to others as they set sail on a new path towards school life.

We renovated our afterschool's room due to demand and watched the children settle into their new spacious environment with happiness, we have seen several staff members get married, become parents or return after maternity leave, take a leave of

absence to travel the world or set off on a new journey of their own.

I ndeed at Sandcastles 2012 has brought much happiness, laughter and joy amongst staff and families a like.

Heading towards 2013 Sandcastles remain committed to offering its renowned high standard of care so if you know anyone who would like to join our Sandcastles family a few spaces will be available throughout the year.

So once more as we bid farewell to 2012 and look forward to 2013 I want to wish all our families, children and staff a truly blessed, safe and restful Christmas and new year.

See you in 2013 Cindy x

A note from Nikki & Jo Jo

It's hard to believe that the festive season is once more upon us and we are gearing up to transform the nursery in to a Christmas wonderland. **There's such a lovely buzz around the** nursery at this time in anticipation of Christmas and all it brings with it. At Sandcastles we endeavour to make this season a special one for your child through games, stories, songs and craft. The climax of this being our annual Christmas Party held this year on Friday 21st December which will take the form of a Winter Wonderland. More details will follow outlining this event within the next few weeks.

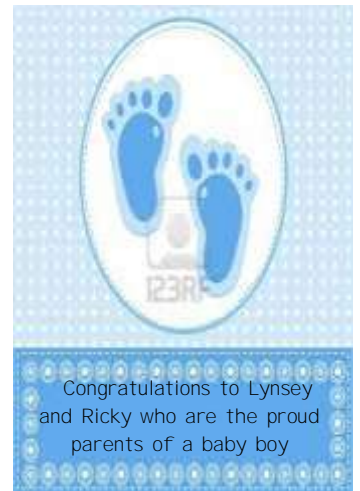
As the evenings grow ever darker, ever earlier, we would just like to advise you that if you need to park in the back car park when collecting your child please use the side door to come in (knock on the toddler window and the girls will let you in) and exit the building which leads directly to the

car park. Likewise if you have two little ones being collected and you would like some assistance going to the car please do not hesitate to ask a staff member to help you out.

We recently held a Beep, Beep day related to road safety which was a great success. We had fancy dress, face painting, nail art. We coloured in pictures, held games, flashcards and dough mats all related to Road safety and children even made their own edible traffic lights using marshmallows and chocolate.

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Drop Inn Ministries shoe box appeal. These presents will mean so much to children in our local area who otherwise might not receive much this Christmas time.

As 2012 draws to a close can we on



Congratulations to Lynsey and Ricky who are the proud parents of a baby boy

Christmas Holidays
Nursery will close on
Friday 21st December at 6pm
We will re-open on
Wednesday 2nd January at 7.45am



behalf of the Sandcastles team thank you for continuing to use Sandcastles to provide your childcare needs throughout this year and Wish all our families a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Nikki and Jo Jo x

Due to the phenomenal response to our milk carton appeal we reached our target in just over 2 weeks
Thank You for your support in this endeavour and I hope the construction goes as smoothly as the collection.



Happy Birthday to:

1st

Charlie, Niamh

2nd

Lucas

4th

Lucas B , Ethan

5th

Colin, Erin, Sophie

Baby Room News



Well winter is officially here again! All the babies have been really busy

creating our 'Winter' boards.

They love the feeling of the paint on their hands and feet and I think you will agree the boards are looking great!!

I would like to welcome Ellie, Erin and Patrick to our room. You have all settled well into our baby room and I hope you and your families enjoy your time with us.

As well as welcomes we have to say goodbye to Joe and Adam who have taken the big step downstairs to the Young Toddler room. We wish you both well and seeing you downstairs in Young Toddlers just show how big you have got and that you are both loving the bigger room and the freedom to move around in larger spaces.

We are really enjoying 'song time' at the minute in the baby room. All the babies love hearing various nursery rhymes and some even join in with

the actions, which is lovely to watch. Our favourite has to be **'Twinkle, Twinkle' and 'If you are happy and you know it'**

From all the baby room I would like to wish a big happy 1st birthday to Charlie in November and Niamh in December. We hope you have a great day.

Lynn & Team xx



Wishing Alison & Ali all the best for their big day in December



Young Toddler News

Over the last couple of months we have been having lots of messy fun, getting involved in lots of activities such as sand



play, bubble fun, water painting (yes you read right) and working with clay.

We have enjoyed getting involved in role play and especially the farm with the tractors and animals.

I have to say the children probably enjoyed water painting the most. All this is, is using water,

brushes, sponges and coloured sugar paper to create unique masterpieces. The children love to see the paper change colour and this activity allows the children to develop their hand to eye coordination, reasoning skills, communication skills and allows the children to express their feelings through art.

In October we took part in Beep, Beep day and thoroughly enjoyed making traffic light skewers.

Since our last newsletter Adam and Joe have made the big journey downstairs from the baby room and to us in the front room. Boys you have settled in well to our

room and made lots of new friends. We hope you enjoy your journey and have fun exploring with us in your new room.

Please keep an eye out in December for all our Christmas craft on our boards, we have been working really hard on creating festive pieces of art.

We would like to wish Lucas a very Happy 2nd birthday during the month of November.

Melissa and team x



Toddler News

The toddler room is in full gear speeding towards Christmas and the children are loving preparing for Christmas completing crafts and singing songs. This follows a busy couple of months that has seen us take part in a Beep, Beep Day, collect shoe boxes for Drop Inn ministries and complete another continent - Antarctica. The children have all enjoyed learning about whales, wolves and igloos (and even us adults have learnt some new facts about the area).

The children are loving taking part in what is traditionally known as party games such as Musical Chairs and the farmer wants a wife.



for children to take part in as they teach children to interact with their peers, to share and take turns, to listen to music, to develop their communication and language skills, develop reasoning skills, to listen to and follow simple instructions, that taking part is more important than winning and most importantly, it is a fun way to release energy.

It is quite funny watching the children play Musical Chairs as usually when the music stops there is a fight to get a seat whereas in toddlers they are very gentle with each other and actually offer the spare seats to their friends. I wonder how long this politeness will last!!! We have had to bid a fond farewell to Zak,

These type of games are good

The excitement of Christmas is nearly here and the last couple of weeks the boys and girls have been busy getting all the Christmas pictures and craft ready. All our displays will be up for the 1st December and then there will be lots



of lovely things to go home too.

As part of our theme we are writing santa letter this year. We are planning to make a special occasion of them, there will be more info about these nearer to the time.

We have had some new faces join us in Pre-school recently and it is nice to see that everyone has settled in well and has become used to the routine of pre-school.

Pre School News

If you have any questions or queries please feel free to ask myself (Denise), Michelle or Lesley.



The winter weather seems to be setting in now but we still enjoy getting outside for some fresh air and exercise. All the children have a pair of wellies which we keep at nursery but as the weather gets colder hats, gloves and scarves may be needed.



Birthday wishes go to Lucas for the start of November and Ethan for the

Lucas, Alexa, Katie, Kaska and Matthew who have joined Pre-school after reaching the ripe old age of three. To these children and their families a little

word of thanks. It has been a real joy to watch you grow into confident little pre-schools and aid you in your development.

We would also like to welcome Olivia to our room. Olivia it is lovely to have you in our gang!! Happy birthday goes to Caroline, Rosabelle, Matthew and Luke it is hard to believe you are all three already it seems like only yesterday you were with Mandy and Melissa in the Baby room.

Wishing everyone a Happy Christmas from Toddlers

Jo Jo and team x



Please provide a pair of wellies to stay at nursery so we can get outside



end of November. We hope you both have a lovely 4th birthday.

Hope you all like your Christmas displays and the craft we make too. (Sorry about all the glitter)

Denise and team x



Our recent Beep, Beep day that was held in October was a great success and loads of fun was had by all.

All children should now be road safety aware.



Wishing Mandy & David all the best as they await the arrival of their little one!!

After School News

Hi from all the afterschool

In afterschool's we can't quite believe Christmas is almost upon us and we are being especially well behaved as we know Santa



has sent his robins to make sure we will all be

on the Nice list and not the naughty list.

Since the last newsletter we have been investigating what animals get up to, to survive the winter. For example bears hibernate while other animals such as the Artic Tern migrates over 21,000 miles. This has been a fun project which the children have all enjoyed.

We have also enjoyed free art Fridays where we get the opportunity to be especially messy



and create original masterpieces such as Samurai warrior armour or shields.

We have also enjoyed helping Heather to create a very colourful fence so we can set up a permanent role play area.

Everyone in Afterschool's would like to wish Happy Birthday to Colin, Sophie and Erin who celebrate this important milestone during November and December. Finally on behalf of everyone in Afterschools can I take this opportunity to wish all our families a very Merry and a Happy New Year.

Heather and Team x

SAVE THE DATE

Winter Wonderland Extravaganza

on Friday 21st December from 3pm

This year we are introducing a new format to our party with children being able to make festive crafts and edible festive treats.

Santa will be popping by in our new and improved grotto

Please bring your own camera to ensure you capture all the festive cheer

Please note that parking is limited on nursery grounds, there is space on the semi cock Road to safely park and is a short distance to walk.



During the winter months we do endeavour to keep the car parks frost and snow free. However, at times of deep frost or snowfall this is not always possible. Please take care crossing the car park and if you need any assistance coming into the nursery please do not hesitate to ask a member of staff.

Some Christmas songs to sing with your children... I'm sure they will teach you the tune!!

Christmas Pudding

Christmas Pudding

Steaming Hot

Steaming Hot

Sprinkle on the sugar

Sprinkle on the sugar

Eat a lot

Eat a lot



One little, two little,
three little snowmen,
four little, five little,
six little snowmen,
seven little, eight
little, nine little
snowmen, ten little
snowmen in the cold



When Santa got stuck up the chimney he began to shout

"You boys and girls won't get any toys unless you pull me out,"

My beard is black, I've got soot in my sack, my nose is tickly too,

When Santa got stuck up the chimney

Achoo, achoo, achoo