



Sandcastles News

Issue 8

Summer 2012

A Note From Cindy

Well can you believe we are at the end of August already. The children have had a great summer waiting on the builders finishing the new afterschool room and finally we are there. I am sure you will agree the space in the new room is fantastic. It will allow for more children of this age group as well as many more activities to be carried out without any worries about being too cramped. On the topic of our recent building work can I say a big thank you to all parents and children for your patience and cooperation, it has been greatly appreciated. I wish the after schools and staff all the happiness in their new spacious room.

Also at this time of year we have a few

goodbyes to say as our older Pre-school children get ready to go to Primary school, but we will not be saying goodbye to all as some will be joining us in Afterschools. I am sure you will agree this is a big step in your little ones life and we hope we have helped to ready them for the next big adventure they will be embarking on, and seeing them grow into young people.

I have been really pleased to see even though the summer weather has not been great all rooms have still



been able to get outside and have some fun in the sun. The children have enjoyed playing outside and going out for walks and trips. The older children have had a packed summer with trips to the local parks as well as a few days to the Beach etc.



From Nikki & Joanne

As was mentioned above we are really pleased to see the building work completed and all rooms back to normal. The after schools room is brilliant and we know that the new space will be put to good use. Could we also say a big Thank you for all your patience while the rooms were disrupted and moved about.

On the topic of moving about you will notice over the next few months some of the staff will be moving about and retuning to us from Maternity leave etc. We are pleased to welcome back Leslie-Anne, Emma, and Michelle from Maternity leave. You will notice to that Lynn is now the new supervisor of the Baby room and Melissa is the new Supervisor of the Young Toddler room. We wish them well, working with their new age groups and know that all the

needs of the children will be met. When moving staff the needs of the children are always paramount and changes are made with the least amount of disruption possible. At the same time should you have any issues or concerns our office door is always open should you feel the need to chat.



Since our last newsletter we have celebrated a few special days. We had our 8th Birthday back in May, with a gloriously sunny day and fun was had by all the children and staff in the entertaining trailer supplied by Cromore Castles.

In June we had a lovely Tea Party for the jubilee celebrations. The children dressed up in their prince and princess outfits and enjoyed an indoor tea party as the weather was typical of a June day (Wet and miserable)



Coming up this month is an end of summer party before everyone gets back into routines and the holiday feeling comes to an end.

Nikki & Joanne xx

Baby Room News



Happy Birthday to:

3rd

Alexa, Lucas B, Zac B,
Aaron, Katie-Ellen

4th

Isaac, Adam Sc,

5th

Cameron, Andrew, Addi

6th

Ethan

7th

Caitlin

It is lovely to see all the rooms back in their own spaces and settled. The past few months have been a little mixed up but I am sure you will agree it has been well worth it.

I am please to say that I will be staying in the Baby room as Supervisor. I am really looking forward to working with the babies and watching them grow into lively little toddlers. I would like to wish Eva, Ava & James all the best in the Young toddler room. I hope you all have great fun and enjoy all the space.

For our July and August theme we did summertime!

We had so much fun painting kites, buckets, spades, airplanes and ice-creams. Look out for new September/ October theme to see what your little one has got up to!!



It's been great for all our little ones to get out for nice walks and getting

outside to play when the sun stays out for us long enough! All the kids really enjoy it.

They have really loved playing with the tunnels and rocking horses over the past few months too.

Welcome to Scott, Daniella, Naimh, Max and Charlie and their families. I hope you feel part of Sandcastles family and enjoy your time with us.

Lynn and Team xx

Young Toddler News

boarding passes.

We also managed a few walks in between showers to the duck pond and around the town. The children love to get on the slides, swings and see-saws. As well as walks everyone enjoys using our outdoor garden and playground and a good time is had by all each time we get outside. The children love using the sit on cars to zoom around the playground.

Lastly can I take this opportunity as the new supervisor to say if anyone has any concerns or questions please feel free to ask myself or one of my Team.

Melissa & Team xx

Now that Nursery is back to normal and Young Toddlers are now in their own room again, I am gong to be joining them as their new supervisor. I am looking forward to helping the little ones explore and join in with the messy fun and I am looking forward to learning alongside this new age group.

We have had to say a few goodbyes to boys and girls who have turned 2 and now join the Older Toddler Room to Shannon, James, Faith, Zack and Sarah we trust you will all enjoy your time in your new room and continue to grow.

The girls did lots of summer craft with the young toddlers which included painting, sticking and much more messy fun. The theme was holidays and included airplanes. Suitcases, passports and



Toddler News

Hello from the Toddler Room

As ever we have been super busy continuing our journey around the world or more precisely through the continents.

Since our last newsletter we have travelled through Africa learning all about the different animals and the beautiful colourful flags. On completion of this topic we quickly journeyed north to begin learning about our home continent of Europe in time for the Olympics. Have you guessed the different countries we have displayed on our boards.

In Commemoration of London 2012 we have transformed our hall into the Olympics. In particular I love the medal board and all those smiling

faces looking back at me.

The weather hasn't been the best this summer more of the 'liquid'

sunshine than any other but this has not deterred us from getting outside at every opportunity (dodging the showers). Getting outside gives the children the opportunity to explore the world around them, feel the different types of weather and therefore using early scientific skills i.e. hot, cold, windy, cloudy, dry and wet. Being outside also allows the children to move in different ways using a variety of outdoor equipment including trikes, scooters, balls, hoops, see-saws and climbing frames, which strengthens their muscles and allows them to gain control over their bodies. Further more they learn new skills including throwing/catching a ball and pedaling a

tricycle. These are only a few examples of the benefits of getting outside and this is why I feel it is important to get outside as often as is feasible. Therefore I would ask as we head towards the autumn can coats always come in to nursery.

I would like to say farewell to Scott, Jack, Katie-Ellen, Lee, Charlotte and Katy who have reached the big old age of 3 and have progressed up to Pre-school. Everyone in Toddlers has thoroughly enjoyed working with each and everyone of you and being part of your early childhood education.

Last but no means least Hello and welcome to Sarah, Faith, Zack, James and Shannon, Jessica and Lucy and their families. I trust you will all enjoy your time with us in toddlers.

JoJo and Team xx



Pre School News

look forward to this.

Can I say on behalf of my fellow nursery assistants we have loved working with your little ones and wish them all the best at their new schools. Please call in soon and show us how grown up you look in your new uniforms.

Well after all that we have been leaning about different countries and different people in Pre-school. This has included climate and the environment i.e: Rain forests, mountains and volcanos. We have also talked about where we would like to live and you can see these pictures on the stairs. Other pictures on the stairs include boys and girls showing you how they learnt sign language and how this can help people to communicate in different ways. The children thoroughly enjoyed learning about this theme and found it very interesting.

We also did not miss the Olympics making Olympic flames and talking about our favourite sports. You can see the lovely pictures drawn by your children displayed along the stairs.

As we go into the cooler weather and head towards winter can I remind parents that we do try to get outside everyday and in all weathers so a coat is important everyday. As well as this a pair of willies would be appreciated to keep the ends of trousers dry during the wet and cold days.

Denise and Team. xx



Well the summer is nearly over and we in Pre-school have been really busy. We have been doing loads of craft and playing outside when possible as well as lots of new children joining us in Pre-school from the toddler room. We would like to welcome Lee, Charlotte, Katy, Katie-Ellen, Jack and Scott.

At this time of year we also have a lot of boys and girls leaving to start Big School. This year we would like to wish Lucy, Colin, Alfie, Evie, Andrew, JamieB, Sophie, Aislinn, Annie, Gemma, Marcus, Cameron, Adam F, Jamie M and Addi all the best as they start a chapter in their lives at their new schools. Some of you will be joining us in afterschools and we



After School News

Hi Everyone,

Well afterschools have been patiently waiting on the completion of our new room and it is great to finally be in it. We have spent all summer planning, imagining and drawing all our ideas and it has surpassed them all. It took a lot of work and we would like to say a big thank you to Cindy, Tommy, Gilbert and all the other builders who made it all possible, they have really done a fantastic job and the kids all love it. Feel welcome to pop in and see it all. I would like to also thank all the parents for their patience in the nursery whilst all the work has been going on.

It hasn't been all work over the summer, we have been out on a few trips to the parks, coffee shops, walks to the trim trails and to Portrush and Portstewart, making the most of the weather. Also celebrating birthdays over the summer months were Ethan and Caitlin. We hope you had a great day.

Well with the start of a new school year fast approaching we will soon have some new faces in Afterschools. We would like to welcome Adam, Addi, Aislinn, Colin, Marcus, Sophie and Leah to Afterschools as they will be starting P1. I am sure they will all enjoy their time with us in the new big room. As well as new faces we have to say goodbye to ones as well. Bailey leaves us as he starts High school and we wish him all the best at his new school. On the subject of starting back to a new school please look out for new information on how we will be doing Homework and new forms will be given out if you want your child to do their homework at afterschools.



Watch this space



Look out for more information regarding road safety and a Beep Beep day. We will be holding a fun day to remind children about the importance of road safety.

We hope to invite local services to reinforce this message.

More information will be given out closer to the time.