



# Manorcroft Nursery Newsletter

## Getting to know the world

Last term our theme was 'Our World', we visited many different countries and learnt about the buildings, national dress, weather, music and food. At snack time we tried different foods from around the world including croissants and jam, French bread, warm waffles with chocolate and strawberries, Salami & olives, prawn crackers and egg fried rice, poppadum's & mango chutney – some of which were a big hit especially the waffles, chocolate and strawberries!!!! On the craft table the children produced some fabulous creations including a mosque using bright coloured shapes, flags, a Swiss mountain scene, African masks and shields and a variety of animals from around the world using different materials. We celebrated the Royal Wedding and made crowns and bookmarks. We learnt hello and goodbye in Zulu, Afrikaans and French and learnt to count to three in Afrikaans.

This term we will be learning about mini-beasts, and different types of Sport including football, golf, cricket, rugby, swimming, long jump and high jump. We will be learning the sounds for the letters 'S, A, T, I, P and N' and we would like the children to bring in a named object beginning with the letter of the day (see Theme Sheet for the dates) for 'Show and Tell'. Past parents have had a competition between themselves to see who could bring in the most obscure object – so keep any eye on the nursery window for the phonic we will be learning about. The Year 2 children will be visiting Manorcroft School Reception for story time – date to be advised. The nursery trip has provisionally been arranged for Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> July. However, due to the poor response last year we had decided not to do a trip this year, but as some parents enquired about the trip, we have decided to see how many children and families would like to go. We will make a decision on whether the trip will go ahead depending on how many positive responses we receive by the deadline of Friday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2018. Please look out for an email from Jackie with more information and a slip for completion and return by the deadline date.

## Birthdays!

**These children have turned four:**

Isabelle, Eva, Monty, Thea, Amelie, James

**And these are now three:**

Samuel, Sofia, Lucas, Elizabeth, Alfie

**Wow, look at how big you all are already!**



**Next half term we will be celebrating with**

Nicolas, Skye, Samuel, Sumita, Daisy, Italia, Sienna, Arina, Jake, Laura, Naadir and Alistair (all turning four)  
Kaid and Ella-Louise (turning three)





## Fundraising news

There has been lots of bouncing going on!



Up, further up, all the way up....  
and down, down, to the bottom again.



### Photos/videos and social media (Facebook etc)

Please can we remind everybody not to load photos or videos of children that are not your own onto social media.

### Sponsored Bounce

Altogether, the children have bounced 4303 times! What a fantastic amount of bouncing!

Certificates have been distributed!

ADULTS PLEASE DON'T SIT ON THE OUTSIDE TABLES AND CHAIRS AS THEY ARE DESIGNED FOR CHILDREN



## More Fundraising News



### School leavers' bag

Supported by the tireless fundraising team, all Y2 children have designed a bag with their self-portraits on. Here's a sneak preview! I think it looks great!

The bag will be available to buy at the nursery and at Magna Carta day (see below) for £5. There is a limited number available, so don't leave it too late!

### Magna Carta Day

We will have a stall at this year's Magna Carta Day in Egham High Street

**on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June, 11-4.**

Be sure to join us for some **hook-a-fishing**, **glitter tattoos**, and **bargains!**

### Donations needed!

Time for a clear-out?

For the upcoming Magna Carta Day, we are looking for donations of second-hand or unwanted items for selling at our stall.

Any donations can be left at nursery.

### Safety Request

Please can children & siblings not use or climb on any of the outside equipment & resources before & after sessions. This is because they haven't been risk assessed &/or have been set up for the next session.

### Help needed!

Can you spare an hour or so on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June? We need some support for manning our Magna Carta Day stall, and also for setting up/tidying before and after.

**NUT FREE ZONE - PLEASE REMEMBER NEVER TO GIVE YOUR CHILD NUTS OR NUT PRODUCTS (EG PEANUT BUTTER, NUTELLA) IN THEIR LUNCHBOX**



## Job roles – what they are really like

### SNACK BUYING

#### What we do

As there are two snack buyers the role is shared out for the week. One of us buys the snack for Monday and the other for Wednesday. On Fridays, Sharon will email us a list of items that she'd like for that week and I scan through for any particular items that may be on special offer such as Barney Bears for £1. Always looking out for cost saving opportunities for the nursery.

#### Who should do it?

I am able to do this role because I work locally and so it is a job role that is suited to those who live locally and are able to drop off the snacks during nursery opening hours.

#### Pros and cons

I particularly like dropping off the shopping because in this way I get to see the nursery staff as all other times my childminder does the drop off and pick ups for me. I also like getting my little one involved in the shopping and sending him off down the aisle to find the items on the list. I think this role as it is works well.

### FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

#### What we do

The role is really varied. Some weeks I might be baking and selling cakes to the nursery and Manorcroft school children; some weeks I might be going in to the nursery to help the children make crafts to sell; some weeks I might be preparing for and helping out at an event we hold at the nursery...

#### Who should do it?

You definitely need to be a team player. It is useful if you are around at least some of the daytime to help with the various tasks that require going in to the nursery. However, the good thing about being part of a team is that there are other roles you can do if this is not possible, e.g. approaching organisations and persuading them to support the nursery - this can be done at a time convenient to you.

#### Pros and cons

Similar to the nursery secretary, I like that the role is varied and interesting and doesn't require a lot of manual labour (apart from a bit of set-up for the parties!) If you are an ideas person, you will enjoy suggesting creative ways to raise money. It is also good fun to work with other parents. As a downside, you might feel a bit of pressure - you don't want to let anyone down and not raise as much as previous years!

#### Anything else?

We have been very lucky this year in that the fundraising co-ordinator has been brilliantly organised and everyone in the team has volunteered to help where they can. I would suggest that the co-ordinator position is best filled by someone with previous experience of fundraising, and if you are a 'new parent' to start off as a committee member so you have a better idea of what goes on.

MESSAGE POCKETS (IN THE NURSERY ENTERANCE) – PLEASE REMEMBER TO CHECK AND EMPTY YOUR MESSAGE POCKETS ON A REGULAR BASIS.



## Job roles – what they are really like (cont.)

### **Nursery Secretary**

#### **What I do**

Most weeks, I collect cash from nursery (conveniently at drop-off) and pay it in at the post office. Whenever there is a need, I send out e-mails to parents. Sometimes there are a few in a day, sometimes none for weeks... For this I have to make sure I keep the e-mail list up to date. I also take minutes at the parent meetings (1x/term), and create the newsletters.

#### **Who should do it?**

You need to be fairly comfortable with computers. I am no graphics expert and the first time I did the newsletter it took me a long time to get all the text boxes, captions and images in the right places. Being comfortable at expressing yourself in writing helps too. You also need to have regular internet access.

The newsletter takes a good chunk of time to produce, but you can manage your own time. I would say the secretary job suits anyone who perhaps works, or cannot commit daytime hours for another reason, and who likes working alone rather than in a team.

#### **Pros and cons**

Personally, I like that it is varied and interesting - I can come up with my own ideas e.g. for the newsletter; and doesn't require manual labour! Having been out of work for a while, it also gave me an opportunity to use my skills. The downside is probably that you are not in a team. It all depends on you.

#### **Anything else?**

Perhaps the secretary role would be most suitable for someone who can do it more than one year (e.g. several children going through the nursery), but one year is fine too.

## OUR nursery

What makes Manorcroft Nursery so special? Apart from the exceptional staff of course... It is the fact that Manorcroft Nursery is not a business, out for maximizing profit. Nor is it part of a state school, with the according leadership and management structures, and budget constraints. Manorcroft Nursery was created by parents, and continues to be 'run' by parents who are looking for the right kind of nursery school for their children. The focus is on the children, not on profits or on ticking government boxes.

This means that we are all in it together, and everyone has to contribute to the nursery's success. That is why every family takes on a 'job', a role to support the nursery.

**In this series (to be continued next newsletter) we present some of the job roles in a bit more detail, to help future parents choose which role best suits them.**

GRAPES, BLUEBERRIES, CHERRIES, ... PLEASE ALWAYS CUT IN HALF  
(TO AVOID CHOKING)