



# Caldecote Day Nursery



## Newsletter March 2023

This month's Learning Focus: **Children's Interests, World Book Day, British Science Week & Mother's Day**

This month's Value: **Creativity**

### Safeguarding

Safeguarding children's wellbeing is paramount for us at nursery. This month we are highlighting FIS (Family Information Service) in Warwickshire, who can support with many situations.

### Family Information Service (FIS)

**We are a free information and signposting service for families with children and young people aged 0 – 25 and professionals working with families in Warwickshire.**

**We cover a wide range of family related topics such as:**

- childcare,
- mediation and contact,
- divorce and separation,
- finance,
- health,
- bullying,
- support groups
- parenting support.



If you have an enquiry, contact us by:

- Telephone - 01926 742274
- Email - [FIS@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:FIS@warwickshire.gov.uk)
- Facebook - @WarwickshireFIS
- Twitter - @WarksFIS

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/fis>

### Early Help

**Early Help is the support we offer to potentially vulnerable children, young people and their families.**

**The purpose of Early Help is to put in the right support at the right time so that problems are less likely to escalate to a point where the child becomes vulnerable or in need. Early Help is sustainable so that problems are less likely to re-occur.**

**Early Help does not always mean early years. While research does show that most impact can be made in those crucial first few years of a child's life, Early Help can be needed and put in place at any time and at any age. All children, young people and families in Warwickshire are entitled to receive Early Help. This means offering information, advice, guidance, and support to families as soon as a concern emerges, or seems likely to emerge.**

**If you feel that you or your family could benefit from Early Help, please see us at the office and we will be happy to put the right support in place.**



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### Leadership Focus

At nursery, we have several staff who take a leadership role. To raise their profile with parents and celebrate the good work that they do, each month we are going to highlight a different role and provide you with some information.

#### **This month it is our Time To Talk Champion:**

At Caldecote, Poonam, Leanne and Tiffany (currently on Maternity Leave) are trained in Time To Talk, but at the moment, Leanne is taking the lead on this. As we have a number of children in nursery with speech and language needs, we are also training Sophie this year to join the team. **'time to talk'**™ is Warwickshire's strategy for supporting the development of speech, language and communication skills of babies and young children in Children's Centres, Early Years and Childcare settings.

Leanne takes the lead on developing excellent practice in the staff team. She has a screening tool to measure children's speech, language and communication skills, and responds to the needs of children and families by providing support when needed. Leanne also ensures that information about speech and language development is available to families, and, along with the SEND team, she oversees specific interventions for children who are finding it more difficult to learn to talk. Leanne also has a role in developing the environment at nursery, so that it is 'communication-friendly'.

Each year the Time to Talk Champions promote speech and language through a focused 'Chatter Matters' week, where we provide activities in nursery and for families at home, to support in the development of speech and language.

#### **Top Tips for developing speech and language at home...**

**Being face to face:** It's never too early to start a conversation, giving full eye contact and completely tuned in to each other. This is laying really strong foundations for the baby's emotions.

**Following your child's lead:** This is one of the best ways to build your child's attention and listening skills. If you follow what they are looking at or touching, you are joining in with their focus. This helps them to stay focused for longer. You are also supporting their emotional development by showing them that you are interested, that you have time for them, and that they matter.

**Keeping it simple:** Babies learn from conversation, and they learn most when the language they hear is at their level –not too much, and not too quick!

**Adding words:** Everyday routines are a great time to chat. Especially at a time when you can be face to face, during a nappy change. Even a chore like doing the washing up can be a time to hear lots of words.

**Repeat, repeat, repeat:** We know that repetition helps children to learn. Singing rhymes and songs is a great way to keep children's interest –they often like to hear the same song over and over (and over!) again! They learn to recognise the rhythm, the actions as well as the words.



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### Home Learning Ideas

Here are some ideas you could try with your child this month...

Share your favourite stories or books, taking time to talk about the pictures and characters.

Do something kind for your mum, grandma or other female relative to show you care.

Try some basic science investigations at home. Mix baking powder with vinegar and see what happens. Try finding things that are magnetic or non-magnetic. Investigate floating and sinking. Blow bubbles and try to pop them.

Try making our seasonal recipe of the month! Send us a photo of your efforts via ParentZone!

**Don't forget to send us a photo of your home learning via ParentZone.**



### Spring Term 2023 Dates for your diary...

**World Book Day – Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March (Details on the next page)**

**Chatter Matters Week – Monday 6<sup>th</sup> – Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March**

**British Science Week – Monday 13<sup>th</sup> – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March**

**Red Nose Day – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March (Details on the next page)**

**Easter Competition Entries due – Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March**

**Spring Stay & Play – Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March; 10am-12pm**

**Term Time Only Children - Term ends Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March**

**Easter Closure – 6pm Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April**

**We re-open at 8am – Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> April**

**Term Time Only children return on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April**

### Easter Art Competition!

Create a piece of Easter inspired artwork using anything you like and enter our competition. Full details on the last page of this newsletter.

### Fees: Please note that we are increasing our fees from April 1<sup>st</sup> 2023.

As an early years education and care provider, we are not immune to the rising costs which we are all facing at the moment. These have been compounded even further by the ongoing recruitment crisis we have faced since Covid-19, the planned 9.7% increase to the National Minimum Wage and the continued Government underfunding of the Early Years sector.

We have been so fortunate to be able to retain many of our well-trained, high quality staff - however this comes at a significant cost to our business. We are fully in support of paying our staff a fair and industry-leading wage, which we do. Whilst we continually absorb many costs, some have to be passed onto our parents in the form of an increase in fees.

A full breakdown of the fees can be found as an attachment to your March invoice and will be updated on our website in due course.

We fully understand the issues surrounding the cost of living at the moment and are very aware of the impact that this is having on our families. If you are concerned about being able to pay your fees and would like some advice or support on this matter, please come and see us in the office, where we will be happy to talk things through with you.



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**This month's seasonal recipe to try at home...**

### Vegetarian Quesadillas



**Try this easy recipe with your child to get them involved and interested in food! Cooking together is a good way to connect.**

#### Ingredients:

- 2 x 400g cans mixed bean salad
- 3 tbsp chipotle sauce
- small pack coriander, chopped
- 140g red Leicester cheese, grated
- pack 8 flour tortillas



#### Method:

1. Drain the beans, reserving 2 tbsp of the can water.
2. Tip into a bowl with the reserved water, chipotle sauce, coriander and half the cheese.
3. Mash everything well with a fork or potato masher.
4. Lay out 4 tortillas, then spread each with  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the cheesy beans. Top with the remaining cheese, then top with another tortilla and use your hands to press them together.
5. Heat a griddle on a medium-high heat.
6. Microwave each quesadilla for 45 secs to start the cheese melting, then griddle for 1-2 mins on each side, until the quesadillas are golden and charred.
7. Repeat with the rest, keeping warm in a low oven. Cut them into wedges to serve.

### World Book Day – Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March

Baby Room	Toddler Room	Pre-School Room
<p>Children and staff are invited to come dressed ready for bed in pyjamas, onesies, slippers and dressing gowns to read about getting ready for bed.</p>	<p>Children and staff are welcome to wear a rainbow of colours or just your favourite, to celebrate with Elmer the patchwork elephant. Come dressed in grey as an elephant or in a bright and colourful pattern.</p>	<p>Children and staff are invited to come in disguise! Come as an astronaut, princess, pirate, superhero, footballer or anything that you fancy...as long as we don't recognise you!</p>

### Red Nose Day – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March

We will be joining Bluey and going 'down under' for a beach / summer / Australian themed day! Come dressed in your Bluey clothes, suitable beachwear or something summery to join in the fun. Suggested donation of £1 or as much as you wish to donate.



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## Our February Learning...



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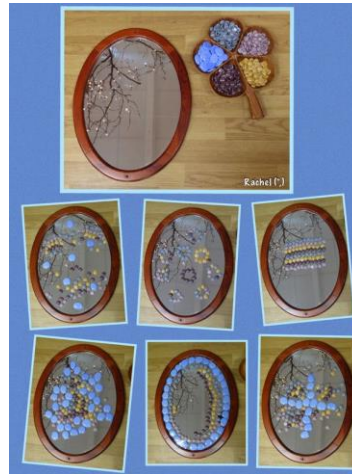
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## Have you entered our 'eggciting' Easter competition yet...?

We would like you to design a piece of Easter inspired artwork and bring it to nursery to display in our Easter Gallery which will be on display at our 'Stay & Play' session on the 25<sup>th</sup> March.

This can be made in any way, with any materials you like and take any form.

Be as creative and curious as you can!

If you create something like transient art that is difficult to bring in, just take a photo and upload it through ParentZone so we can print it and add it to the collection.

The competition is open to all children in Nursery and special Easter themed prizes will be awarded!

All entries should be brought to Nursery no later than **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March.**

Please ensure your entry is named in some way. All entries will be returned before Easter.



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