



## February 2023

Welcome to our newsletter.

### **Important dates this month.**

3+ Review meetings – 8/2/23  
Sammy Star – 9/2/23  
Recycling van visit – 10/2/23  
Closure Staff Development Day – 13/2/23  
Half term holidays – 14/2/23 – 17/2/23

Please check Famly regularly for any dates arising.

### **Where to access information.**

Up to date information will be communicated via Famly app, Facebook, news section of the website and on our noticeboard.

Parents are encouraged to check regularly throughout the month for updates.

Jolly Pirates staff are here at any time if you would like to speak to us. Please contact us and we will get back to you as soon as possible before or after sessions.

### **What is our learning project?**

Our learning project this month is 'What do we sense?' Through this project we are going to be discussing our '5 Senses'. Over the course of the month, we will explore and investigate how our senses can help us engage in different activities both indoors and outdoors. The children will have the opportunity to explore what the 5 senses are.

We will also be exploring the weather and discussing what the children observe and feel. This month we will also explore Valentine's Day.

### **What activities might we explore?**

The children will be exploring a wide range of items relating to our project. We will explore the 5 Senses through tasting food, smelling activities as well as exploring different textures and sound during play. We will also have a food tasting activity. We will be able to take part in treasure hunts for the senses. There will be opportunities to explore musical activities, touch and feel boxes. We will explore story tuff trays and exploration trays for Valentine's Day e.g., hearts, feathers etc.

We will also look at how the weather is changing in our outdoor environment and any observations we make.

**What might we sing or read?** The children will have the opportunity to explore our book corner with peers and staff. They will be able to explore freely throughout the session with topic related books. The books will enhance the children's learning by looking at pictures and staff reading aloud during group story time. This area will have engagement from a staff member to answer any questions the children may have.

During group time the children will learn and sing. Singing songs and looking at books will help children interact socially as they play together.

Our rhyme and song sheet is available to download from our website and is uploaded on Family.

**Additional activities planned?**

Our link health visitor will be attending Jolly Pirates for the 3+ review meetings with any parents/guardians that wish to have one.

Sammy Star and Laura will be visiting us for our monthly music class.

The council recycling van will be visiting us this month (rescheduled from last month). We look forward to learning about different types of things we can recycle following on from our activities last month.

**What skills are we focussing on?** We will be focusing on a range of skills and incorporating learning about our senses into this. We will continue to promote scissor skills and grip control. We will be promoting independence skills including buttering own food and cutting skills.

**Home activity ideas:**

We would love to see some photos from home of exploring our senses e.g., tasting some foods. We would encourage parents/guardians to encourage their child to butter/cut up some of their own foods at home. Please send in pictures and we will print these and add the pictures to our reading areas for the children to discuss with their friends.

Please email photos to [info@jollypiratespreschool.co.uk](mailto:info@jollypiratespreschool.co.uk)

**Additional information:**

Sickness: please phone Jolly Pirates on 02892 670988, email [info@jollypiratespreschool.co.uk](mailto:info@jollypiratespreschool.co.uk) or send a message on Family to alert staff to your child being off due to sickness. This would be greatly appreciated.

Please ensure all items of uniform are labelled and spare clothes bag clearly labelled.

Any extended family members or childminders, who may be collecting children, will need **photographic I.D.** Staff must be informed the morning off collection or ahead of time that there will be someone other than parents collecting.