

This week we were delighted to welcome the first group of teacher trainees from the Wandsworth Schools Consortium Initial Teacher Training. We will be welcoming three groups this term to visit Eastwood and see us in action! Eastwood also provides much of the training programme for Wandsworth's Newly Qualified Teachers (NQT's) in nursery and reception classes so we are becoming quite a big provider of learning for adults as well as young children! This month we are adding to this by starting up a new ESOL course for parents which we hope will prove very valuable to all participants.

Rob Nicholson - Headteacher

Safeguarding



At Eastwood we aim to protect and promote the wellbeing of all children, act in their interests at all times and build their resilience. This year each staff member is undertaking a specialist online safeguarding course (provided by Wandsworth Council) and in addition we are rolling out in-house training on sexual abuse for all staff and volunteers. We have been exploring materials in the PANTS campaign on the NSPCC website - which is generally for primary school age children. This has helped to remind us of the reasons we promote best practice when changing children and babies - always asking permission, explaining and talking to children as we help them. You can find our Safeguarding Policy on the website.

Children's Centre- Dads Go Wild



Saturday 4th February for this month's outdoor exploration morning for dads, granddads and male carers with their young child(ren). Your child does not have to attend Eastwood in order for you to come - but you both need to be warmly dressed for two hours of nature investigation, adventure and a campfire in the great outdoors! Meet at 9.30am outside the Nursery School building (168 Roehampton Lane) - there is no need to book.

Premises Assistant



See our website or information posters around Eastwood to find out more about the Premises Assistant vacancy we currently have. Governors feel this post may well suit a retired person from the local community who would take pride in our gardens as well as dealing with general maintenance and health and safety across the site.

Fantastic Two's

This term's cohort of Fantastic Two's have settled in well and have enjoyed their second session - changing their books, learning to play with others, sharing and taking turns at snack time and listening to a story at the end of the session. Fantastic Two's is a group available to children eligible for a free 2 year old place but have not yet taken a place up.



Learning This Week at Eastwood

Blossom Room



This week in Blossom Room there have been many exciting things happening. The team have started with their twice weekly heuristic play sessions. Children

have shown a real fascination in natural objects and have been doing some pretty creative things with the objects. We are in the process of putting up a display board so that parents will be able to see a session in progress. The children have also visited the hall this week. They have shown a real interest in the balls, chasing them, rolling them and kicking them. They will explore this further this week as it promotes great physical skills and challenge.

The children have been supported to focus on their own self help needs. They used dolls to practice

washing and dressing. The adults have been encouraging them to wipe their own noses and they now attempt to clean their own hands and faces after lunch and tea times.

The children have begun exploring the story of 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'. They have the story sacks with props and a song to go with this. Already there are some children who are repeating words from the story so this is a great start to their early reading skills!

Willow Room

The children have had lots of fun in Willow Room this week exploring rice noodles and looking at pictures of Chinese New Year celebrations. They have also been doing some simple maths - counting how many spoons of sand fill a variety of different size containers which led to lots of imaginative play of making food and talking about what we like to eat at home. The children have also enjoyed the story sack for 'The Three Little Pigs' throughout the week and tried to think what the Big Bad Wolf might eat instead of pigs! Grass was a popular suggestion followed by carrots which are a favourite vegetable with many of the children at lunch times! In the Forest School outing the children went to see the chickens this week and brought their photos back to show the others.

Cedar Class

This week the children have been:

- Celebrating Chinese New Year by making noodles with spring onions, making lanterns and practicing Chinese writing!

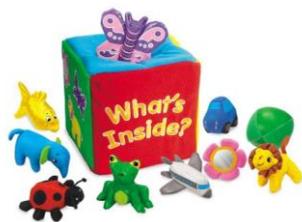


- Exploring liquid density by pouring soap, water, oil, milk and syrup onto each other to investigate what happens.
- Making a large scale map on cardboard; which included a airport, car park, parks and roads - so thinking about sense of place and the environment around them
- Going on a bear hunt in our garden (we're not sure whether or not they found one) to promote literacy and drama;
- Visiting the library and the fruit and vegetable stall in Roehampton Village

The team are also preparing for visits to the Science Museum. Wendy and the team can provide more details on this trip and the risk assessment.

Chestnut Class

The children in Chestnut Class have been learning to play some new board games and this has helped them to learn about and practice taking turns and rules in simple games. This is very useful for the development of their social skills and has helped them to practice counting carefully and accurately. The children have also been exploring attributes of objects with a 'feely box' to help them develop their vocabulary and think about what may be inside. There has also been time for some very exciting movement sessions and messy play to promote early literacy through mark-making.



Beech Class

Following some detailed planning and research work by the children an exciting new 'bug hotel' has been

set up in the nature area. A bug hotel consists of a wooden and brick structure with small spaces to make tiny habitats for a range of mini beasts - which in turn encourage birds into the garden. The construction theme has continued with children designing and making artefacts using very large cardboard boxes outside. Block play has been developing over the whole week inside. An exciting weather board has been set up inside to complement an equally exciting weather station in the garden! The children have also found time for some challenging maths with a lovely pebbles game to help them explore and record number bonds to ten.

It has been rather cold so the campfire has been lit in most sessions with children making toast and warm cordial drinks to keep warm outside!

Maple Class

There have been some very interesting creations lately in the woodwork area where we have been encouraging children to think through what they want to make and draw a picture first - so really promoting designing and making and exploring the practical problem-solving side. The children have also been looking at pictures of a range of old buildings and castles and using these to develop their designing and making with the block play area.

We have some new climbing apparatus outside and the children have been exploring this and learning how to use new equipment safely and with confidence.

Talk Shop

The next Talk Shop with Kate and Sharon will be from 10.00am – 11.00am on Monday 6th February at 168 Roehampton Lane. Also, see the Children's Centre programme for details of the Talk Shop sessions

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Improving lives through education for young children and their families in Roehampton.

available at Putney Vale and at The Lennox and use the service if you have any concerns about your child's speech and language development. The service is free and the advice is from experts!

Children's Centre

Coffee Morning

Everyone Welcome



It was exciting to see a good turn out for our monthly coffee morning last week. These informal gatherings provide an

opportunity to meet other parents and to have your say about the services and programme at our Children's Centre. Why not come along to the next one on Wednesday 22nd February and have your say?

Dates for the Diary

Half term for the Nursery School and EEC 2 year old places in Willow Room is week beginning Monday 13th February. Children return to school on Monday 20th February.



Fantastic Twos's will still be running on Tuesday 14th February but with Mytime Active running a special session on physical play in the hall.

Governing Body



Can you offer some time for 2 evening meetings a term, some online training and occasional visits to Eastwood? The Governing Body has a vacancy and is seeking someone with a business and financial background to support its work- especially in the Resources Committee. Please contact the school if you or a colleague would be interested.