

Eastwood News Monday 8th May 2017

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

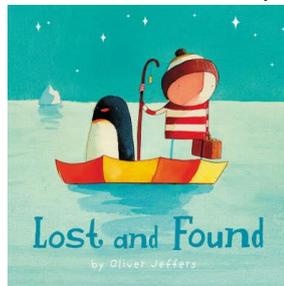
Welcome to the Summer Term at Eastwood! The adults at Eastwood started off the term with a training day - this was



our first joint INSET day with Somerset Nursery School & Children's Centre in Battersea and Balham Nursery School & Children's Centre. Eastwood practitioners visited the two nursery schools whilst leadership team members stayed behind to welcome our visitors from those settings! All staff from all three settings had a useful and inspirational day and shared excellent ideas to take children's learning forward.

Maple Class

The theme for the term is 'Water' and currently the class core book is 'Lost and Found' which the children really seem to enjoy! They have already made props for the story to help them get to know it really well. Some of the children have made rowing boats using recycled objects and blocks. The class has also created 'a lost and found' desk to promote the children's writing skills and the children have even been making their own little books.



The class has some new starters and they are settling in well. They especially enjoy outdoor play and the wood work area - where the children are now making designs on paper before they start.

Some of Maple class children went out for local visits to the library and Blossom Room. They were excited to see the chickens and the babies and share their experiences.

Chestnut

All the children in Chestnut Class have really been benefiting from a focus on their core strength through their daily routine - for example by practising ball skills and learning to adopt different sitting positions such as kneeling-which can be quite hard! The class have been exploring 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' and have made their own little caterpillar models.



The younger ones are learning to enjoy dressing up to develop their play skills. We are hoping someone may be able to help us by making some simple elasticated cloaks, capes and skirts for their dressing up play - please let us know if you can help!



Willow Room

In Willow room last week the children were busy exploring the new room layout. There has been a lot of interest in the new sand pit which has

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become a real focal point for their play - the children have been showing consideration and special awareness by making sure that there is enough space for peers to play. There has also been some maths and science observed with children filling and emptying containers and experimenting with volume.

The new book corner has also been frequently visited by the children and the new books are proving very popular. In particular the children have been enjoying 'Grampy Rabbit Goes To Space' which has quickly become a favourite and led to the children making a space rocket using community blocks, fabric and foil. They have shown a lot of interest in the new literacy/ mark making area and are keen to develop their fine motor skills - using the scissors to cut paper. After visiting the Guinea pigs in Blossom room the children were very keen to make hay.

Beech Class

The children have been working on developing the music garden using parents' contributions of ladles and pots and pans. They have helped to build a new wigwam for the garden and incorporated this into their play. In developing their awareness of letters and sounds, the children have been playing with rhyme and rhyming pairs - an important stage before moving on to initial sounds. Outside the new telescopes in



the weather station area have promoted observation, communication and language with lots of work on positional language such as 'near', 'far' and 'up'. Again the children have been out and about with visits to the library and baby room. Children independently access ICT resources for use in garden - comparing remoted control and programmable devices.

Blossom Room

This week the children have enjoyed listening to the story of the gingerbread man, joining in with the words and doing a range of activities linked to this. The children made their own paper gingerbread man. They painted him, stuck on some eyes, a nose, a mouth and some buttons! The children also decorated some gingerbread men biscuits with icing that they made and enjoyed eating them! We have also learnt a new song called '5 Gingerbread Men'. Next week we are going to be making gingerbread men puppets so the children will get the opportunity to retell the story in their own way.

The children have also been busy in the garden planting some sunflower seeds and they will be continuing to plant their own individual ones next week. We are also



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going to grow some cress and take the children out in small groups to look at different plants and flowers in the local environment.

Cedar Class

Cedar Class have explored using the stop watch on the Ipad timer to record how long it takes us to do things, some children timed themselves running and others timed how quickly they could move sorting toys into a pot using a grabber to develop an understanding of time. The children have been collecting different objects and resources to make their own 'storytelling tin' using the props to make up stories as a group.

They have been exploring tea bags in the water tray, talking about the smells and colour changes in the water; they have also looked at what happens when corn flour and water are mixed. They have enjoyed joining in with circle games and number rhymes outside- especially 'Ring a Ring a Roses' and 'Here we go Round the Mulberry Bush'. At Jabadao the children explored jumping in 'hop bags' and exercised on shape mates. On Thursday the children also practiced their balancing and rolling on mats and different pieces of equipment.

Literacy at Eastwood

We are having a push on Book Club in all 6 classes and in our Fantastic 2s group. We want to ensure that all children can and do regularly borrow books from nursery to take home to share with parents and other family members.



We ask that you look after books loaned to you but If you have lost your folder or book please please see your Key Person for a replacement and start borrowing books again. We really want to make sure that all our children from Blossom Room up are changing books at least once a week.

Roehampton Library

We are enjoying a successful partnership with Roehampton Library at the moment. We are regularly taking groups of children down to the library for story times and the library staff regularly visit the Children's Centre and bring stories and books into Eastwood! Do remember that a family trip to the library is a fun and free activity that will really support your child's communication, language and literacy.

Sainsbury Active Kids Vouchers



Sainsbury have stopped issuing the vouchers now but we are still collecting them. Please bring in any remaining vouchers and we can buy useful resources for the children.

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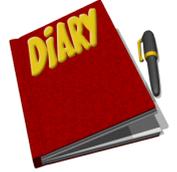
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Children's Centre

We have two exciting new services on offer this term: -

- Bookstart Corner is a fun and interactive session to help families promote books at home and develop a love of rhymes, stories and books. Come along to the sessions with your child on Tuesday afternoons from 1.30pm to 3.00pm
- Developmental Journey is a service for parents who wish to develop themselves and perhaps move into employment in the near future. The 6 week programme starts on 10th May in the morning and covers
 - Building Self Esteem and confidence
 - Mindfulness and self-care
 - Positive Thinking : Experience, skills and qualities
 - Time Management and commitment
 - Communication Skills Assertiveness and boundaries
 - Moving on – Next steps. Call us on 020 8871 5544 to book a place. A crèche is available

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



26th May 2017 – Day Nursery and Nursery School closed for staff training

29th May 2017 – Bank Holiday - Closed

29th May - 2nd June 2017 – Nursery School only will closed for half term break

3rd June 2017 – Dads go Wild – 9.30am to 11.30am- meet at Eastwood Nursery School Reception - 168 Roehampton Lane and enjoy the great outdoors with Rob at our fantastic Forest School Site.