

News

The week has flown by as the children have had fun playing with all the toys associated with our 'on the road' topic. We have glued shapes to make vehicles, mixed paint and used the large brushes to make a road and we have enjoyed delicious pin wheel biscuits. The children have happily role-played 'wheels on the bus' on the rocking seat in the garden and upstairs with a shop and fire engine. We have had great discussions at snack time about how children get to Playgroup and how parents get to work. Later on in the term we will be doing a couple of trips to the station and the river so the children can see some of the transport we've talked about. We have been waiting for the new children to fully settle before we start the trips.

We have noticed the bulbs we planted in the autumn term are coming out, the evenings are getting lighter so we can all look forward to Spring, especially good news for the children as we will be spending more time outside in our lovely garden.

We hope you are all now connected to **Tapestry** online. The staff have all been very busy capturing special moments of learning as the children access the different activities each day.

We have had many lovely trips to the **Chiswick House Kitchen Garden** which is staffed by volunteers. We were dismayed to find out recently that they are now going to make a charge of £5 per child to attend this learning activity. Please could you let us know by return of email whether you would be prepared to pay for this visit, so that we can make plans for trips accordingly.

We have acquired a green Gap Parka coat for a 3 year old which isn't named. We think it may have been left after the Stay and Play session on Tuesday afternoon however please let us know if it belongs to your child.

We still have spaces for both days of the Holiday Club so do let Jo know if you would like your children to enjoy more fun activities during the holiday week. This is especially good for the new children who will benefit from consistent attendance at Playgroup.

We wish you all a very happy week

Jane, Corinne, Bev, Sonia & Susan

Updates

Requests. Do you have any **spare large boxes** which we can paint with the children and use for buses, trains etc ? It's amazing the play value something so simple can have for young children. We call it 'symbolic play' and we notice children picking up different unrelated items and using them in their play. One such example was a child who was repairing the wheel of the bus with a plastic octopus. We encourage this imaginative play as it feeds into future learning.

Please keep bringing in the dry food, bread sticks and rice cakes for **snack-time**; we would also love to have some raisins as they are a particular favourite. Thank you for being so generous with your donations.

Thank you to all those families who have been taking **Basil** home for some wonderful adventures and the lovely photos that you have provided in the book. We so enjoy looking through the book with all the children and the books are a great memory for us of all the families, both current and past, that we have worked with.



Transporters



Painting a road with big brushes

The week ahead

This week we will be thinking about emergency vehicles as these are especially appropriate for young children, with the sensory excitements of sirens and flashing lights.

We will be organising a new display of family photos on a family tree and would love you to send some photos to our Playgroup email which is:

groveparkplaygroup@gmail.com

Some of our activities:

Monday

- Art activity: Fire engine with paper shapes
- Role play upstairs: The fire engine
- Small world: House and people

Tuesday

- Art activity: Painting with large brushes (junk modelling)
- Puzzle section
- Play dough: Transport cutters

Wednesday

- Art activity: Printing with Lego
- Planting on the black plastic tray
- Water trough: Using the sponges to clean the cars

Thursday (Extended session)

- Sensory play with shaving foam
- Story time session
- Nursery rhyme time

Friday

- Cooking activity: Making sandwiches (spreading skills)
- Mark making on the white board
- Construction toys: Making bridges and tunnels

Dates for your diary:

Half-term 12-16th February *Holiday club Tuesday 13th and Wednesday 14th*

Thursday 8th March: Drinks at the City Barge, 7.30pm-

Thursday 29th March: end of Spring term.