

Winter News from Singleton Day Nursery

The Nursery Team would like to wish you a very happy and healthy time over this magical season.



Nursery Opening and closing Hours over the Christmas period:

Christmas Eve, 24th - 7am til 5pm

Christmas Day and Boxing Day- CLOSED

27th & 30th - 7am til 7pm

New Year's Eve, 31st - 7am til 6pm

1st Jan - CLOSED

The nursery will return to their normal hours from 2nd January 2020.

Dates for your Diary in December

Christmas Jumper Day Friday 13th

We would like to encourage the children to join the to join the staff team in wearing their Christmas jumper for this day.

Christmas Party Tuesday 17th from 1pm

Our Under 2's, Toddler's and Pre school rooms will be having a Christmas party for the children to enjoy!

There will be a variety of party games, a surprise visit from Father Christmas and a party tea.

Christmas Lunch Friday 20th

Our Nursery Cook, Ali will be preparing a traditional Christmas lunch with all the trimmings for the children and staff to enjoy together.

If your child does not attend any of the above days and you would like your child to join in the festive fun, please speak to a member of the management team to book an extra session.

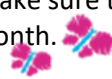


Christmas Post Box

A Christmas post box will be in nursery from the 1st of December for the children to post their Christmas cards and letters to Father Christmas. The post will be emptied every day and cards distributed. All letters to Father Christmas will receive a reply.

General reminders

We kindly ask for parents to not let other parents into the nursery for obvious security reasons, a member of staff will be with you as soon as they can and we appreciate your patience at busy times. Also can parents please be aware of their speed when driving in and out of the car park.

If you are giving dates for upcoming months please can you make sure that dates are in before the 20th of each month.
Thank You  www.schoolhouse-daycare.co.uk

Staffing News

Welcome to:

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome our newest staff member's to the Singleton Team:

Siwan Wilson who is based in our curious under 2's room and *Aimee Roberts, Ellie Gallagher, Chloe Rutter, and Chloe Webb* who have all joined our busy Over 2's team.

We would like to say thank you to all staff and children for their help in helping the girls settle. *'Together we enjoy learning, encourage confidence and love life'*.

Also a warm welcome to all our new children and their parents.

Farewell to:

We would like to say a huge thank you to Charlotte Thomas who kindly covered Jess's Deputy Manager post whilst Jess was on maternity leave with her son Tommie. A warm welcome back to Jess and of course Tommie who plays whilst his mummy is busy in Toddler's. And now it is a goodbye to Charlotte who has left us to start her own maternity leave. Charlotte is expecting a little girl at the end of November and it's been a pleasure having Charlotte cover at Singleton but sadly she will be returning to our DVLA site next year!

Promotions:

We would like to say congratulations to Chloe Gregg who has been promoted as our new Playscheme Supervisor.

Congratulations to Ashleigh Osmond who has recently been nominated by the staff team as our employee of the month.

Our staff team have recently completed the following **training courses:**

Schoolhouse bespoke Customer Service

Schoolhouse bespoke Positive Behaviour Management

Food Hygiene

Manual Handling

Paediatric First Aid

The staff would like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to all parents that joined us for our recent parent's evening. It was lovely to showcase what we do and be able to share so many of your children's milestones. We do enjoy working together and hope you found your time helpful and informative.

Winter is DEFINITELY here.....

BRRR, it's cold outside! Please be sure to send your child in with appropriate coats, hats and welly boots as we will continue to go outside as the weather allows us to! Please make sure all items of clothing are labelled.

Please can you make sure that you provide your child with some spare clothes that can be left in their bag whilst at nursery- include some warmer items such as long sleeve tops, vests, Trousers/ leggings, socks/ tights and underwear if Potty training.



Our Children's Themes and Activities....

Under 2's

We thought this newsletter would be a great way to let you know about what we have been learning about with our Babies. We would also like to welcome all our new families that have recently joined us. Amy and her team have enjoyed planning exciting Autumn activities where our under 2's have particularly enjoyed 'autumn animals in our tuff spot tray'. The children were encouraged to explore their senses as they touched different materials 'prickly hedgehog, bushy squirrel and bumpy owl' as well as crinkly leaves. We added cinnamon and nutmeg smells to our sensory play and enjoyed looking at a range of 'That's not my....' books. The children's favourite book was 'That's not my fox'!

We also enjoyed decorating pumpkin biscuits, creating apple prints dipped in paint, and using our handprints to make some bonfire pictures. We are looking forward to our next learning topic which is Winter celebrations. We will read 'That is not my snowman and that is not my penguin' and plan lots of fun and magical sensory experiences based on the babies interests.

Toddlers

Jess and her staff team have been very busy learning about 'Marvellous Me'. Our Toddler's have been encouraged to get to know themselves and their friends through lots of hands on activities and 'real objects and resources'. We have painted and displayed self portraits, filled our cosy home corner with materials and recyclable items from home. Our theme has also helped the children to learn about Families and we used our doll's house to explore what is inside our homes and what we do at certain times of the day. The children really enjoyed using photographs of their faces to make their own 'role play' figures for Singleton's house. Have you seen them? The children are very proud. As well as learning about ourselves we have been exploring Autumn and learning about the changing environment around us through outdoor play, messy play, song and rhymes and stories. We recently went on a nature trail around our lovely nursery grounds and counted 12 squirrels scurrying past!

There's always something new for us to discover and our next topic will be Winter. Let's hope we have some snow to build some snowmen and experience this magical season like excitable Edgar (John Lewis advert)

Pre-school

Our current learning theme is 'on the move'. So far we have been learning about how different things move. We have looked at how we move around and at how vehicles travel; our favourite has been 'fire engines and aeroplanes'. We have been enjoying the Autumn weather too. Outside is so much fun in the wind, the children noticed how the wind moves and how the wind blows the leaves; the children were encouraged to catch falling leaves and some were easier to catch than others. Have you seen our mud kitchen? We have sparked the children's imagination by providing creative recipes and a selection of autumnal materials to inspire mud kitchen creations. The children have enjoyed making autumn leaf soup, conker cakes, pine cone pies, leaf sandwiches and mud buns! After our Halloween celebrations we created some bonfire art and discussed the colours seen in the night sky which nicely leads us on to our Christmas preparations of how Father Christmas and his reindeers travel around the world.

Play scheme

Play scheme was well attended in October half term all the children enjoyed science experiment week taking part in their own experiments. The children enjoyed making their own slime, experimenting with Mentos and coca cola and watching the reaction when both these components are mixed together. The end of half term was followed by a spooky Halloween party with lots of creative spooky Halloween crafts for all the children to take home. With Christmas just around the corner we have lots planned for our Christmas and new year play scheme. In the lead up to the big day we have lots of crafts and fun activities from making an edible snowman to making Decorations for your own tree at home. Celebrate with us for the new year with a new years eve party to celebrate saying goodbye to 2019 and welcome in 2020 with activities to get us set for the new year making calendars and book markers ready for the return to school in the new year.



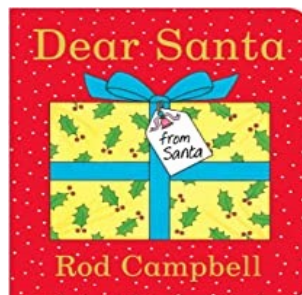
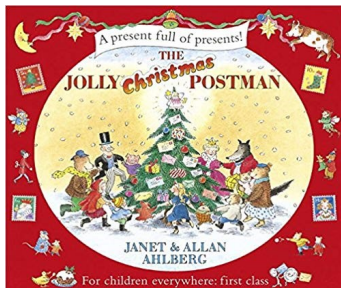
Things To Do Together At Home

As we're heading into the winter months there are lots of fun and easy activities that can be done at home. Here are some ideas that we know the children would enjoy doing with you:

- ◆ **Make pretend snow** - Instant snow powder (from Poundland) & add some water,
- ◆ **Edible Marshmallow Snowmen** - Poke cocktail sticks through 2 large marshmallows & use icing pens to decorate face and buttons
- ◆ **Egg Carton Reindeers** - Cut up an empty egg carton and paint brown, make and cut/ glue reindeer antlers, and add a red nose & some eyes.



Christmas Slime - Use elmer's glue, glitter, Christmas sequins & mix in with starch



Christmas is a magical time and reading books together can certainly help bring about the magic of Christmas. Here are some of our favourites: Dear Santa by Rod Campbell, That's not my snowman by Usborne books, The Christmas bear by the author of the Gruffalo and The Jolly Christmas Postman who touches everybody's hearts.

Ali's Nursery Winter Warmer

Ingredients:

60g pudding rice

600 ml full fat milk

2 tbspcaster sugar

Fruit Coulis to serve— optional

Method

1. Pre heat your oven to Gas mark 2
2. Wash the rice and drain in a sieve. Put into a wide oven proof dish, at least 1 litre capacity. Pour in the milk, add the caster sugar and stir together.
3. Place in the oven and bake for 2—2 1/2 hours, or until the pudding has a golden brown skin and the rice is tender and creamy (the longer you leave it, the more thick and sticky it will become)
4. Serve warm, add some fruit coulis on top, if you wish. Enjoy!



Home made Rice Pudding for you and your family!



We would like to wish all children and their families, A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Please visit our website for up to date information and useful child related articles and links.

Local Christmas Events

From 16th Nov– Jan 2020 Winter Wonderland, Swansea City Centre

From 30th Nov– 1st Dec Winter Wonderland Christmas Ball, Aberavon Beach

1st December - Frozen Party - Oxwich Bay Hotel

8th December - Wales biggest Christmas Fair - LC2 Swansea

12th December - Santa's Christmas Countdown, show- Neath, Gwyn Hall

13th December—12th Jan Peter Pan, Swansea Grande Theatre

24th December - Christmas Eve Breakfast with Santa - Mumbles Pier

Jan 2020— Aladidin Pantomime, Gwyn Hall, Neath

