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WHAT'S ON AT WOODLANDERS?

We've had an absolutely wonderful half-term filled with lots of adventures and fantastic learning opportunities.

In both the Oaks and Willows rooms the children have had an exciting time learning about healthy eating through making Pitta Pizzas. Promoting healthy eating is an essential part of the Early Years Foundation Stage and is something we love doing. The children were thrilled to be involved in creating their healthy snacks and exploring a variety of colourful and nutritious vegetables.



We've also had a great time trying various citrus fruits through sensory activities. We've touched, smelled, and tasted oranges, lemons, grapefruits, limes, and Clementine's. The children were quite adventurous, savouring the sweet flavours and making funny faces at the sour notes.



The Willows room was abuzz with excitement as we celebrated various festivities throughout the year. We talked about Bonfire Night, Diwali, and Christmas with great enthusiasm. Our little ones crafted their own firework painting and bonfire collages. We have been talking about the different colours we see in our daily lives and what happens when we mix them together. Then children worked together to create their own colourful picture- well done everyone it looks great!



In our Oaks room the children have been learning all about road safety. We have been using our new traffic light to help us practice and reinforce what we have learned. It has been great playing and having fun while also learning how to stay safe on the roads.



Meet Jerry the Giraffe.

We have a new Oaks room pet named Jerry the giraffe. The children are taking turns bringing him home for the evening and then sharing their experiences with him in his diary by drawing a picture or putting in a photo. This activity is an exciting way to boost the children's confidence in speaking and listening to others. We are looking forward to hearing about all of Jerry's adventures!

Diwali.

We have been learning about Diwali, a Hindu Festival celebrated by millions of people from various cultures and countries. Diwali is known as the festival of lights. We have loved making our own Diva lamps and Diwali-inspired artwork as part of our learning



Forest School

What a great time was had in Forest School this term! To help teach the children how to use tools safely and properly our wonderful forest school leader Sharon encouraged them to lend a hand in sawing wood for our cosy campfire. The children also enjoyed searching for all kinds of creepy crawly creatures and admiring the beautiful native fungi, plus a variety of fruits and berries growing on the trees. This was a great opportunity for us to talk about looking but never touching plants when not with an adult and never with plants we do not recognise.



Remembrance day 2023

We wanted to say a big thankyou to Lily, one of our Woodlanders' children, and our trustee Sophie for representing us at the Remembrance Day parade and laying our homemade wreath. It was created during our fun-filled Forest School sessions. We then made a seperate donation to the Royal British Legion.



Children in Need 2023

It was so lovely to see so many of our children dressed up for Children in Need. Our staff members joined in the fun too, with a pyjama day to show their love and support. It's always heart-warming to see everyone come together for a good cause like this.



Whoops- A- Daisy Angel,

It was wonderful to see our friends and family gather at St. Andrew's Church to watch the Oaks Nativity play, "Whoops-A-Daisy Angel". The children put on an amazing performance, displaying their confidence through singing and dancing. After the play, we all went back to Woodlanders to celebrate with a well-deserved Christmas party!



Oral Health

Sarah, who is part of the NHS Dental Care Team visited us this term. She came to talk to us about how to brush our teeth properly, when to brush, and which foods we should avoid because they contain lots of sugar. Sarah was so much fun and even gave each of the children a cool shark toothbrush head protector. She shared lots of helpful information with us, and the children had a great time during her visit.



Winter/ Spring Forest school kit:

If your child attends Forest School please can you dress your child in lots of layers to keep them warm (we can always remove some if they get hot).



- We advise that they wear
- 2 long sleeve T-shirts,
- A thick jumper or hoodie,
- A thick pair of trousers or 2 thin pairs,
- 2 pairs of socks (not trainer socks).
- Wellies or old trainers,
- Waterproofs (even if it's not raining- they will find water and mud),
- Hat and gloves.

If possible, please provide a spare coat and shoes for your child's afternoon session to avoid putting their wet things back on. These can be brought in a separate carrier bag to leave at Woodlanders.

Please also ensure that your child has a small rucksack-type bag to bring up to the woods with a spare set of clothing in case they need a change when we are there. Thankyou.

Friends of Woodlanders Christmas Raffle.

All of us at Woodlanders would like to express our heartfelt thanks to the Friends of Woodlanders group for their hard work with this year's amazing Christmas Raffle. They raised a whopping £1662! As a charity-run preschool we depend on fundraising to provide additional resources for our children- If you feel you could help with fundraising ideas and would like to find out more information about the friends group please email- friends@woodlanderspreschool.co.uk.

Booking additional hours.

If you need to book additional sessions or change your current sessions we kindly request that you give us a half-term notice if possible. In case the desired sessions are not available straight away, we hold a waiting list for them. To check for availability, please get in touch with Charley.

Funding- are you eligible?

All parents/carers are reminded to check their eligibility for additional funding. Children get 15 hours of funding from the term after they turn 3 automatically but you may be eligible for 2 year old funding or extended 30 hours funding. You can check here: www.childcarechoices.gov.uk You can apply for 2 year old funding via: https://oneonline.devon.gov.uk/CCSCitizenPorta_LIVE/en/Account/Register



**Last day of term:
Tuesday 19th
December 2023**

**First day of Term:
Wednesday 3rd January
2024**

**We would like to wish
you all a Merry
Christmas and a Happy
New Year!**

Additional information:

Our Maple room is available to hire- please contact the Office for more information- 01364652181
Bookings or Session requests: Charley- admin@woodlanderspreschool.co.uk
Funding or invoices: Louise- finance@woodlanderspreschool.co.uk
Sen Enquiries: Sam, Woodlanders Sendco, and deputy safeguarding lead; sendco@woodlanderspreschool.co.uk
Safeguarding concerns: Sally, Head of Woodlanders and Designated Safeguarding lead- head@woodlanderspreschool.co.uk or Sam; deputy safeguarding lead
Friends of Woodlanders: Alex- friends@woodlanderspreschool.co.uk
If your child is ill or cannot come into their session, please pop a message on your tapestry account so that the rooms are aware. If you would like some support with using tapestry we have a handy how to guide. Ask your room leader for more information.