



Al-Ashraf Newsletter

Autumn/Winter Term 2014 Newsletter

Assalamu alaikum WW

We would like to extend a very warm welcome to all our returning children and new pupils who have settled very well alhumdulliah.

Masha Allah the children have taken to our nursery routines, which has helped them to gain confidence and have a happy time playing and learning in

their new environment.

The pre-school children have been studying the following topics:

- Ourselves/My Family
- Autumn
- Buildings
- Animals
- Harvest



Volume 5, Issue 1

November 2014

Dates for your Diary:

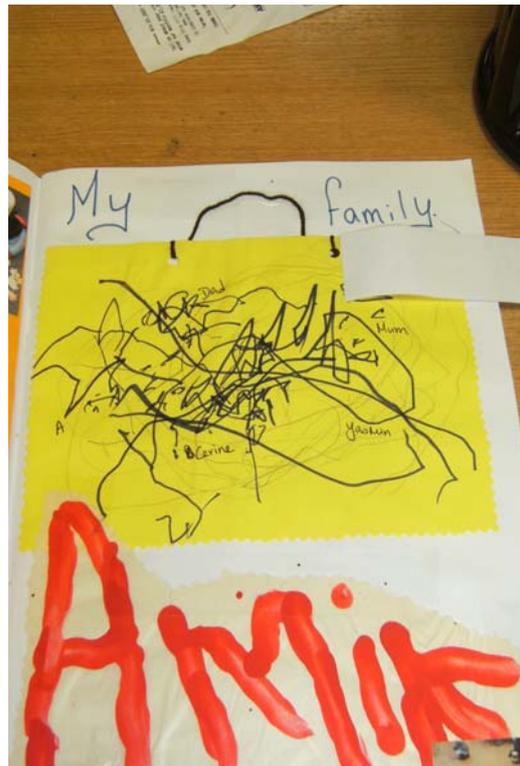
- Last day of term - Friday 19th December
- Nursery reopens - Monday 5th January 15

Ourselves/My family

The topic for the first few weeks of the term was "Ourselves." During this time the staff got to know the children and helped them make new friends. We use this topic to help children build in confidence and settle in getting to know the staff and their colleagues.

As part of our topic we talked about ourselves and our family .

The children drew pictures of their family members and pointed out who they were and what their relationship is to them. They drew an outline of their hands, counted their fingers and coloured in the drawing. We had a group discussion about emotions and feelings.



Parent Consultation:
Mon 15th Dec- Thurs
18th December

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Buildings

We showed the children a presentation on buildings, different houses and unique quirky buildings.

We went on a local outing to Masjid-E-Noor . The children had a chance to visit the Masjid and take a look around inside. We had the privilege of our local Imam, Imam Hassan speak to the children regarding the masjid, prayers and the Oneness of Allah. Imam Hassan showed the children the ablution area and many children had the opportunity to perform ablution.



Mother & Toddler

Mother and Toddler sessions are for anybody with children under the age of three. These sessions take place on Monday and Wednesday from 2pm-3:30pm. There is a small fee of £1.

We have many activities taking place including regular visits from the health visitors. The next scheduled visit is on:

Monday 1st December.

Mother and Toddler sessions are a great chance to socialise, and give your child the chance to play and share in a group environment.

Autumn

As part of our autumn theme, we took the children to the park to gain awareness of the natural world and explore what happens in the autumn season. The children explored the textures, colours and shapes of the crackly



crispy autumn leaves with their fine and gross motor skills. The children also showed good hand and eye co-ordination by searching for conkers and commenting on their different sizes. We had the opportunity to create a bark rubbing by assembling paper on trees and using coloured wax crayons. We discussed how through the power of Allah (SWT) the colour changes of the leaves and how they fall off the tree naturally.

Animals

For our animal theme we looked at different animals and children had the opportunity to speak about the pets we have at home. We had a visit from Al-Ashraf Primary School's pet rabbit and the children had the opportunity to handle and stroke the rabbit. We visited St. James City Farm to learn more about animals. The children enjoyed learning about the different animals at the farm. We discussed how Allah (SWT) has created all animals. Naseem Apa, read a story to the children of how the Prophet (S.A.W.) showed love towards animals



As part of the lifecycle topic we have been fortunate to have acquired an incubator, which we have hired from the City Farm . Once the eggs have been hatched, after a 21 day incubation period, the farm will bring a larger incubator to assist the nurture of the new hatchlings. Once they are a few weeks old they will be collected and reared on the farm. We hope to visit the chicks at the farm at a later date.

Harvest

As part of harvest we talked about how food is grown and stored. Also the children over two weeks brought in food items to donate to "Gloucester Helping Hands" scheme which provide food parcels to the underprivileged run by Imam Hassan. In the course of the week, Imam Hassan presented the children with a Islamic story on Hazrat Umar (R.A) and his distribution of milk to the poor.



Islamiaat

We at Al-Ashraf Nursery endeavour to incorporate Islam into all themes and topics. Based on this, our pupils had the opportunity of exploring and visualising Hajj through activities during Hajj week. Pupils role played travelling in the plane, wearing their Ihraam and praying the talbiyah. They learnt about what was involved in Hajj and what the virtue of Hajj was.

We learnt.....

- **How to make zikrullah** (Remembrance of Allah): all pupils are encouraged to recite some zikr e.g. Subhanallah, Alhamdulillah and Allahu-akbar, as well as kalimah tayyibah, so that the greatness of Allah is instilled in their hearts and they learn that Allah is the greatest. May Allah grant our children this sublime quality.
- **Virtues of Friday**: Pupils learnt that Friday is a very blessed day for Muslims, and it is a day when we should ask more from the bounties of Allah. Among learning duas and kalimas on Friday, pupils are encouraged to recite Durood Shareef. Pupils were taught the Sunnats of Friday.
- **Arabic Alphabet**: Familiarising pupils with the Arabic Alphabet using the Alphabet nasheed, Alphabet book and Alphabet white boards. Alongside this, pupils learnt the re-cognition of letters by tracing them.

As part of harvest, we learnt about a creation of Allah, the squirrels. We learnt about how they collect nuts and store them for the winter season.

Sunnah of the month:

To love for others what you love for yourself

Arabic numbers:

Through the Arabic numbers nasheed, Alhamdulillah we nearly know our numbers 1-10 in Arabic.

Arabic Alphabet foundation level

Alhamdulillah, it's extremely admirable to know that our children are motivated in learning sabaak (lesson). Some of our foundation pupils have made great progress and have now advanced onto half and whole letters. We hope to aid them in their learning through worksheets I.A.



Rising 3's

This term the Rising 3's had great fun settling in.

We learnt about our body parts and carried out various activities to help us remember them.—one way was drawing a bodily outline of our friend and using the nursery rhyme "heads, shoulders, knees and toes."

Another topic that we enjoyed was learning about the jungle. We looked at animals such as elephants, parrots, snakes, tigers and crocodiles and the amazing sounds that they make. We even conducted a cooking activity and made cupcakes in the shape of monkeys!!



This term we have been learning and practising the following duas:

- Dua before eating
- Dua after eating
- Dua before going to the toilet
- Dua after leaving the toilet

Children's Corner

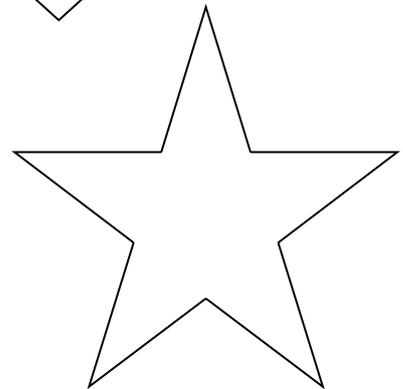
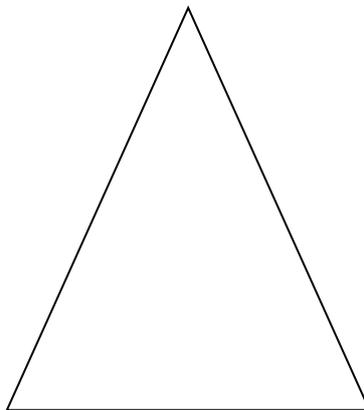
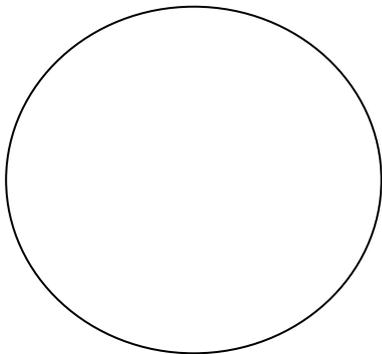
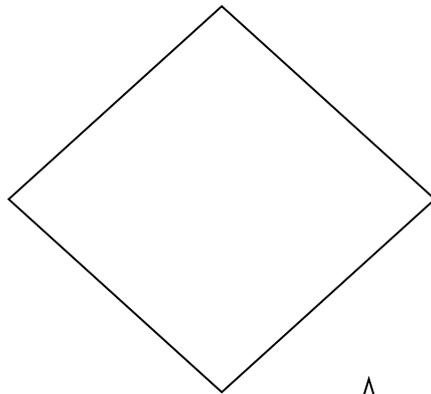
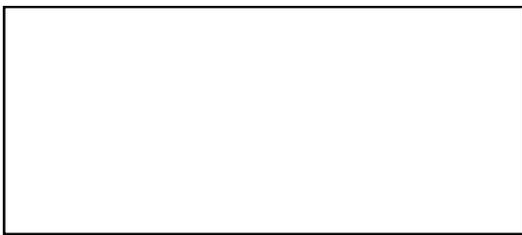
Colour in the triangle red

Colour in the circle blue

Colour the diamond orange

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Other Important Info

Updated information

Please ensure all data pertaining to your child is updated such as changes in your child's medical condition, Also it is very important for us to be able contact you especially in case of an emergency and when the need arises.

If you have a question about the nursery, you can contact:

Manager: Mrs Khatija Panchbhaya (kpanchbhaya@al-ashraf.gloucs.sch.uk) 01452 503533

Working Committee: Mufti Abdullah Patel and Maulana Abdullah Patel (nwc@al-ashraf.gloucs.sch.uk)
