



Al-Ashraf Newsletter

Spring Term 2015 Newsletter

Assalamu alaikum ww.

OFSTED 2015

Congratulations to all our staff and pupils on achieving an outstanding grading from Ofsted! The 'outstanding' grade helps show how the hard work and dedication is paying off. More importantly it indicates your child will thrive whilst at Al-Ashraf nursery.



Below our manager Khatija Apa shares her thoughts on the recent Ofsted inspection which took place on Thursday 29th January 2015.

Nursery Manager Khatija Panchbhaya comments:

"The inspection was conducted with no notice from Ofsted which is standard practice, when inspecting early year's provisions. This way inspectors are able to observe us, as we are every day. One of the acknowledgements the inspectors attributed to Al-Ashraf nursery, were the harmonious dynamics between parents, staff and children.

The inspectors really enjoyed engaging with the children and found them to be very confident when speaking about their daily activities and experiences at the nursery. The inspectors commended the nursery staff for being a 'team who were helpful, enjoyed what they did and obviously were very passionate about their job'.

I would personally like to thank everyone for their contribution to ensuring our nursery received this well-deserved recognition,

JK.

Volume 5, Issue 2

March 2015

Dates for your Diary:

- Last day of term - Friday 27th March

- Nursery reopens - Monday 13th April

Trip to Cattle Country:

Wednesday 3rd June

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Around the World

As part of this topic we looked at four countries. India, China, France and England. For each country we looked at the different clothes the inhabitants wear, the language they speak and discussed foods the countries are famous for. Our snack for the week coincided with our topic e.g. Chapatti (India), Eating noodles with chopsticks (China), Fish Fingers and Chips (England) and Brioche (France).

Weather

During circle time, different types of weather was discussed using flash cards.



We looked at how plants start to grow during spring time. As an outing children visited St. James City Farm and looked around their allotments. As an extended activity the children planted their own cress seeds. Children were encouraged to talk about the changes they noticed.

World Book Day

As a nursery, we had great fun celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 5th March. All pupils and staff dressed up as their favourite book character. Everyone had a great time.



Comic Relief

On red nose day we all dressed up in red or white clothing. Staff joined in on the fun and wore a red nose. As an activity, children made their own red nose. Staff and children donated towards Comic Relief. Al-Ashraf Nursery raised a total of £48.15. All proceeds go to Comic Relief.

Planets

The Solar system was another topic covered this term. Our children have become familiar with the planets and their names. They showed a lot of interest when a book on space called "Welcome to Alien School" by Caryl Hart and Ed Eaves was read to them. As a hands on activity, all children enjoyed making Paper Mache planets.



Road Safety

As part of road safety awareness week we learnt about the importance of being safe when crossing the road and why holding our parents hands and standing clear of the kerb before crossing the road is so important. We learnt about the rules of STOP, LOOK and LISTEN. We did a local outing to observe the traffic lights changing and understanding how to use them responsibly. A certificate was issued to all children who participated in this outing.

Outdoor Forestry Play

On Monday 9th March, Al-Ashraf pre-schoolers had their first taste of the outdoor woodland area at Barton gate Children's centre. The experience gave our children freedom and space to be themselves, it truly allowed child led play to occur which increased learning, confidence, and self-esteem, as well as social skills and language development. The Children were aware of and inspired by nature as well as learning how to respect and look after it. They had fun digging up worms and observing their habitat.



Forestry play is an innovative educational approach to outdoor play and learning.' The philosophy is to encourage and inspire individuals of any age through positive outdoor experiences.

By participating in engaging, motivating, achievable tasks and activities in a woodland environment, each participant has an opportunity to develop intrinsic motivation, sound, emotional and social skills. These, through self-awareness, can be developed to reach personal potential and supports their progress.



People who help us: Firemen and Police

At present, we are looking at the topic "People Who Help Us." We will be talking about the people in our local community who help us. This will include thinking about police officers, doctors, dentist and the fire service.

Our friendly local Officer Kelly visited the nursery and chatted with the children about her job and the type of support she provides for the community. We were fortunate to have a visit from the local fire brigade too. The children were very excited to take a look around the fire engine, climb aboard and tried on the fireman's helmet. The children had fun playing with the fireman's hose.



Islamiaat

Prophet Muhammed

A theme was organised on the Prophet Muhammed (SAW). Aspects of the Prophets life was introduced in and around the Nursery. Pupils listened to a story on the life of the Prophet, recited durood and ate the Sunnah way. Pupils were taught who Prophets are and their roles of Prophets. Basic Islamic History on the Prophet Muhammed was taught.

Akhlaq/ behaviour logs

The purpose of behaviour logs is to minimise challenging and unwanted behaviour. Team leaders and management have built relationships on how to meet emotional needs and have implemented strategies to relax children when they are stressed or need support. Some of these include giving children certain choices which make them feel more in control and giving them enough time to respond to choices and requests.

Our purpose is to nurture our children with the best Islamic manners. We aim on using positive ethical behaviour to encourage children to understand their conduct and the impact they may have on themselves and around them.

Sunnah of the month

To love for your brother what you love for yourself.

Rising 3's

The children showed an interest in the topic "transport." They learnt about the various types of transport such as cars, trains, planes, camels, donkeys and horses.

This topic was further extended by introducing road safety and the colours of the traffic lights. One of their favourite cooking activity was making "chocolate trains."

The children were curious about the moon and the stars so we talked about how everything has a purpose and was created by the Almighty.

Story books were read to the children to aid their learning. The children thoroughly enjoyed marble painting and making planets.





Al-Ashraf
NURSERY

WE ARE GRADED
OUTSTANDING
IN ALL AREAS

Ofsted
OUTSTANDING
2015



Children's Corner

Circle all the things that are **GREEN**



Other Important Info

Updated information

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

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)