



Chinese New Year

We will be celebrating Chinese new year for a week so all children can join in with our lovely activities.

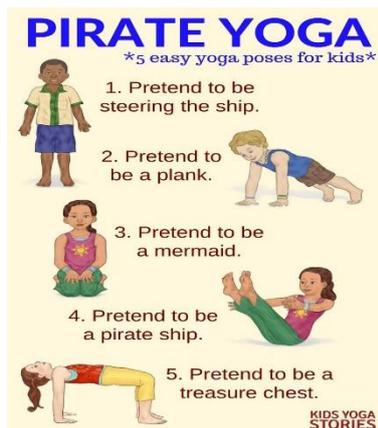
We will be learning all about how to write chinese symbols, making flags and lanterns. We will be celebrating the chinese culture, looking at photos to learn more about this lovely event.



Online safety for under 5s

You should start talking to your child about keeping safe online at an early age. It's easier to have conversations about online safety little and often, rather than trying to cover everything at once. Set boundaries from the start. It makes it easier than trying to play catch-up at a later stage. Check that websites are suitable before your child visits them. Look for websites that have parental pages that explain how the site works and how they keep your child safe. Ensure your home page is set to a child-friendly website. Play games with your child to get them used to being online. Set 'Safety Mode' up on YouTube to help filter out explicit content. If you use Google, turn on Google 'Safe Search' to filter sexually explicit content from your search result.

For more help and advice visit www.nspcc.org.uk/onlinesafety or contact the NSPCC helpline on 0808 800 5000 to discuss any concerns



Welcome to January's Newsletter

Looking back over another year reminds me how every year of learning is completely different to the previous one, and that's the beauty of our child led setting.

Because of this there is no way of knowing what will be explored and what questions shall be raised by the children. But one thing we do know is the combination of their imagination and curiosity, and the extensive creative supplies of art, music and loose parts makes for a thousand possibilities.

Here's just some of what we got up to this last year...

The year started with an interest in creating structures. We noticed the children using clay, magnets and loose parts to build spaces. This led onto an interest in castles and 3D shapes where the children compared materials. As early spring set in the children noticed changes to our trees and the first sign of growth. This was to lead onto a project exploring plants, flowers and trees, but also lead us to look at different artists and styles of painting. Van Gogh's sunflowers inspired us to try new ways of painting, as we studied Blossom, Sunflowers and Dandelions. The growth interest lasted the entire Spring and Summer, we dissected plants and vegetables as the children experimented with their own ideas of the hypothesis of the journey from seed to plant. In the Autumn as the trees started changing, they became a topic of interest.

Throughout all these group interests, individual interests are happening simultaneously and woven throughout each session.

We cannot wait to see what 2022 brings



Dish of the Month

Veggie Yaki Udon

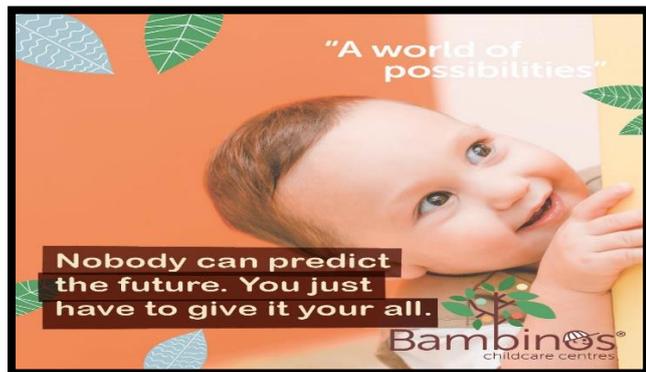


Ingredients:

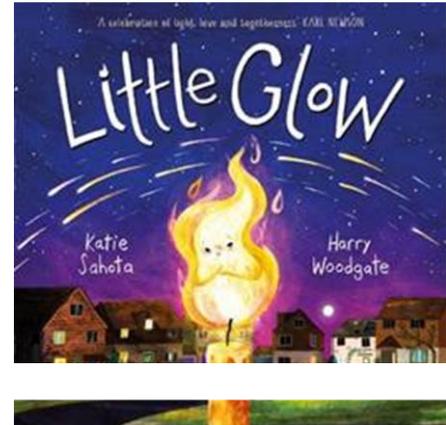
- 1½ tbsp sesame oil
- 1 red onion, cut into thin wedges
- 160g mangetout
- 70g baby corn, halved
- 2 baby pak choi, quartered
- 3 spring onions, sliced
- 1 large garlic clove, crushed
- ½ tbsp mild curry powder
- 4 tsp low-salt soy sauce
- 300g ready-to-cook udon noodles
- 1 tbsp of ginger, chopped

Method:

1. Heat the oil in a non-stick pan or wok over a high heat.
2. Add the onions and fry for 5 minutes.
3. Stir in the mangetout, corn, pak choi and spring onions and cook for 5 more minutes.
4. Add the garlic, curry powder and soy sauce, then cook for another minute.
5. Add the udon noodles along with the ginger and reserved brine and stir in 2-3 tbsp of hot water until the noodles are heated through.
6. Divide between bowls and serve.



Book of the Month



From the window of a cosy house in a seaside town, a lonely little candle looks out onto the world. Throughout the year, the small flame watches on as families use different kinds of light to celebrate Lunar New Year, Diwali, Hanukkah, Ramadan, Halloween and Christmas.

Little Glow is amazed by the bolder bright lights and yearns to light up the skyline in the same way. But as a family gather one evening, the flickering flame realises that even a small, quiet glow has huge importance.

This glimmering, gorgeous book is a gentle story that showcases the amazing celebrations of light across different communities. It is truly a diverse and inclusive book. As well as highlighting many important religious and culture events (without specifically naming any of them), it also includes mixed race families, same-sex parents, children with disabilities, and a range of body sizes.

Perfect for winter night reading, the book's message of love and togetherness is relevant all year long.

Events in January 2022

National-storytelling-week – Monday 13th January

Australia Day – Monday 26th January

Chinese New Year – W/C Monday 20th January

Burns Night - Tuesday 25th January

Maths is everywhere

- It's true, maths really is everywhere, and learning about it doesn't happen just at school or nursery. Young children have lots of important mathematical experiences every day and there are lots of ways to help them begin to develop their mathematical skills. We all use maths many times a day. Numbers and shapes, measuring and solving problems are all needed for simple tasks like measuring out washing powder, making the right number of sandwiches for lunch or cutting a cake in equal portions. Young children need help to understand what maths is used for and you can do this by talking about the maths you use in your day-to-day routine. Show children how numbers, size, shape and pattern are important in your life by doing things like:
 - Checking with them the bus number as it arrives
 - Reading aloud the quantities printed on boxes and tins of food
 - Pointing out the numbers on the clock
 - Counting out the money at the check-out
 - Finding the TV channel on the remote control together
 - Talking about how things fit and tidying away toys into boxes.

Use everyday maths words

