

## Our sharing diary



### 8th January Veterinary Surgery

Another New Year and lots of new activities for our children to explore. Linda has set up a great Veterinary surgery, full of dogs, cats, rabbits and even snakes and a lizard for the children to play with. They are enjoying using the equipment from the doctors kit to look after the animals. They are learning about what different animals eat as well as using their imagination as they play and take care of the animals.



### 10th January Our Next Collective Rewards

Our new collective rewards is the popular 'fill the board with Lego pieces'. This is a good visual incentive for the children to become involved in. We are again looking for kindness, good listening, sharing and good tidying at tidy up times. Our reward will be the ever popular 'movie and popcorn'.

Good luck everyone, We'll be watching!



### 11th January Jolly Phonics



During this half term we will be continuing to teach our children about letter shapes and their sounds using the 'Jolly Phonics' resources. The children enjoy learning the new rhymes, which to them is just like learning a new song or Nursery rhyme. They soon begin to link the letter shape to the correct rhyme. They join in with the actions and songs as they watch and listen to the rhymes on the Whiteboard or sing the rhyme when we hold up a card with the letter shape on. We looked back at the letter shapes we had done before Christmas before introducing a new letter and will continue introducing a new letter shape each week.

### 14th January Kathy's music session

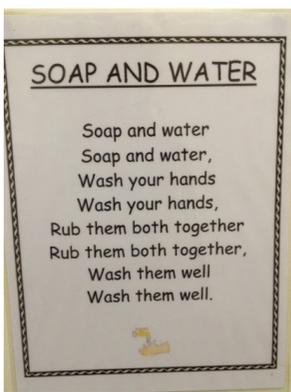


This morning our music lady Kathy came. Today's theme was 'Winter Weather'. Kathy had lots of metal instruments including a giant cymbal and giant chimes. We sang songs about the frost and snow.

Kathy showed the children the actions to some new rhymes, encouraging them to copy her. Everyone played the instruments fast or slow and had lots of opportunities to swap instruments with each other.



### 17th January Health and Hygiene



This week we have been reminding the children how important it is to wash their hands thoroughly to keep the germs away.

We have a song at Tiny Tots that you can sing while washing your hands. If you wash your hands until the song is finished then your hands should be clean.

(It is sung to the tune of Frere Jacques)

### 22nd January Exploring our environment

This week we have had some cold, frosty mornings and the children have enjoyed exploring the changes this has made to their environment. When we went out to play one of the children found a little sheet of ice. Evie was very intrigued and was keen to have some ice as well so we went in search of more. We found a wonderful round sheet in one of the mud kitchen's plates. Evie was very excited when Linda showed it to her and she held it up and looked through it. She was keen to take it home so Linda explained how ice melts and asked her if she could see anything dripping from it and Evie told her it was "Rain!".



Jack looked at the frost. "It looks soft" he said and dabbed his gloved hand on it. He watched as the frost started to change. "Look it's melting" he said excitedly.

Nancy discovered that the warmth from her hand melted the frost on the wooden table, leaving behind her hand print.



### 28th January We made it!

All the children's hard work has paid off, they have filled the Lego board with bricks. This week we will be enjoying short movie clips with a popcorn treat.

### Our next Collective Rewards Challenge

Our last collective rewards effort was a great success, to build on this we have a new one. This time we have a giant hand to fill with smaller 'Helping hands'. We will be continuing to be vigilant, looking for the children using their hands to be kind, helpful, share and of course good tidying throughout the session. Our reward will be hot chocolate and marshmallows.

Good luck everyone.



## Celebrating the Chinese New Year



Over the next two weeks we will be celebrating the Chinese New Year. We are beginning by making some Chinese Lanterns. We talked about how each year is named after a different animal and this year is the 'Year of the Pig'. We looked at the word 'pig' written in Chinese and asked the children if they could try and do some of their own writing to decorate their lantern. Then we folded our coloured card in half and used a ruler to draw the lines we needed to cut along. The children were then shown how to use a stapler to join the lantern and add the handle.



Our children have also dressed up in Chinese costumes.



Our finished lanterns ready for our lantern parade.



As part of our celebrations for the 'Chinese New Year' Kathy brought in a selection of Chinese instruments for a music session. Kathy showed them the selection of instruments that she had brought, telling them their names then demonstrating how to play each one. She brought a zither, gong, drums, Chinese chime balls and a lotus klac. We even used rice shakers and chopsticks to make music.



At snack time this week we have given the children the opportunity to try to eat noodles using chopsticks and tasting other foods.

At the end of the session all the children followed Kathy with her 'dragon mask' around the room and waved coloured ribbons for a 'Dragon dance'.

### Stay and Play session

For our last Stay and Play session this half term we have invited our parents and carers in to help us celebrate the Chinese New Year. We had themed crafts such as making lucky envelopes, dragon dances and a chance to join in tasting more Chinese food such as spring rolls and prawn crackers with some sweet chilli dipping sauce and of course more noodles and chopsticks.



Thank you to all who joined us and we hope you enjoyed sharing this time with your children and seeing how they learn through their play.

### We made it again!

After all the children's hard work we did it, our giant hand is full of smaller helping hands. Congratulations everyone. This week we will be enjoying hot chocolate and marshmallows.

We hope you have enjoyed reading about what our children have enjoyed doing and learning about this half term and if you would like to share with us what your children have enjoyed doing we would be pleased to hear from you.

Thank you from all the staff at

Templegate Tiny Tots Pre-school