

Dear Parents/carers,

WELCOME BACK!

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas break and a memorable celebration to welcome 2015. Hopefully it was a restful and enjoyable time spent with the children.

Autumn Term 2014 events

The children enjoyed the combined Eid and Diwali celebration at the nursery. Some children (and teachers too) dressed in their traditional costumes to join in the festivities.



On behalf of the Happy Hands team I would like to thank all the parents for participating in getting the children involved in the Sponsored Fancy Dress Day for the Strongbones Charitable Trust. We have raised an amazing £375.00 collectively!!! Well done to all involved.



A big thank you also for attending the children's Christmas Concert and for the food/drinks contribution. The children performed really well on the day and judging from the feedback it was a great success! An enjoyable day over all.



NOTICE

Yoga	- £5.25/session
Dance	- £5.25/session
Meals	- £3.70/day

SPRING TERM

Monday 5th Jan 2015 – Thursday 2nd Apr 2015

FESTIVALS & CELEBRATIONS:

Valentine's Day	14/02/2015
Pancake Day	17/02/2015
Chinese New Year	19/02/2015
Mothers Day	15/03/2015
Good Friday	03/04/2015

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- Parents/key persons consultation week beginning 23/03/2015 (Monday)
- Mothers Day Coffee morning 10:00am 16/03/2015 (Monday)
- Easter egg hunt (children only) 10:00am 30/03/2015 (Monday)
& 31/03/2015 (Tuesday)
- Last day of term 01:00pm 02/04/2015 (Thursday)
- First day of Summer Term 2015 20/04/2015 (Monday)

QUOTES

Before elaborating any system of education, we must therefore create a favourable environment that will encourage the flowering of a child's natural gifts. All that is needed is to remove the obstacles. And this should be the basis of, and point of departure for, all future education. The first thing to be done, therefore, is to discover the true nature of a child and then assist him in his normal development. [Maria Montessori, *The Secret of Childhood*, translated by M. Joseph Costelloe, S.J.]

MONTESSORI LANGUAGE

It is a human tendency to communicate with others and this could underlie the emergence of language. Montessori said, "Talk is in the nature of man." Humans needed language in order to communicate, and soon, the powers that come with language were revealed. The evolution of the human language began when communication was done through pictograms or pictures and drawings. It then developed into ideograms when pictures began to turn into symbols. Later, these symbols became words, words involved letters; vowels emerged; one symbol came to represent one sound, an alphabet was created, and then came the alphabet we now use today and just as language evolved hundreds of thousands of years ago, it also changes with each generation. Unneeded words are dropped and new words come into use. Language rose and continues to rise with the collective intelligence.

The Language development of the child

When the child arrives in the Montessori classroom, he has fully absorbed his culture's language. He has already constructed the spoken language and with his entry into the classroom, he will begin to consolidate the spoken language and begin to explore the written forms of language.

Because language is an integral involvement in the process of thinking, the child will need to be spoken to and listened to often. The child will need a broad exposure to language, with correct articulation, enunciation, and punctuation. The child will need to experience different modes of language and to hear and tell stories. Most importantly, the child needs to feel free and be encouraged to communicate with others.



With the child's absorbent mind the child by age six will have reached the 3rd point of consciousness in language where he understands that sounds and words have meaning and

that these symbols can be used in writing. He will become fully articulate, he will be able to express himself in writing, he will be able to read with ease, and have a full comprehension of the thoughts of others.



MONTESSORI LANGUAGE MATERIALS – LEARNING TO READ

Kind regards,

KAMARIAH KAZMI

NURSERY MANAGER/HEAD TEACHER