



Red Dragon Pre-School Update February 2021

Oral Health

Oxfordshire Nurseries Going the Extra Mile for Oral Health

We all know that 2020 was a difficult year and many aspects of our lives had to change, however four Oxfordshire nurseries decided they could tackle an extra challenge!! In September 2020 Faringdon Pre-school, Red Dragon Pre-school, Oxfam workplace nursery and the EYFS team @ Five Acres Primary school, all took on the task of completing Healthy Smiles accreditation with the support of the Oral Health Improvement team from Community Dental Services and Oxfordshire County Council.

The Healthy Smiles accreditation is set out in 6 standards covering; oral health promotion to children and their families; encourages children to discuss and role play dental experiences; ensures the setting only offers tooth friendly food and drink at snack times, celebrations and special events; supports the setting to create policies to guide oral health awareness, understanding and promotion and ensures all staff have attended free oral health training with CDS. Each setting was also offered the option of completing a lunch box audit to help guide policy and support parents in providing low sugar and tooth friendly packed lunches. The standards aim to provide the setting and its families with a better oral health knowledge and a clearer understanding of its vital links to communication, health and diet.

We are so proud of the extra effort and commitment demonstrated by each nursery in the months leading up to Christmas. Each setting was required to evidence what good practice they were already demonstrating and provide evidence of any new initiatives, ideas or changes made. Not to mention how they are now several steps ahead of the game, now that we know oral health is to be added to the new EYFS framework in September 2021. If you would like to know more about the accreditation or to contact a member of the Community Dental Services oral health improvement team please follow this link to our Oxfordshire Oral health page; [Healthy Smiles – Community Dental Services](#)

Our Pre-school made a feature in the 'Oxfordshire Early Years' Newsletter!
We are super proud of all of our children, parents and staff for helping us achieve this amazing

Important dates

Thursday 4th March – World book day; come dressed up in your favourite costume!

Friday 26th March – Last day for entries to our annual decorated hard-boiled Easter egg competition £1 to enter, 1st place winner and everyone receives a little prize for entering

Last day of term Wednesday 31st March -

AM session only

First day back – Monday 19th April



News



Dear parents/carers

We hope you had a lovely half term break.

Last term we loved learning all about 'Our planet' and what we can do to save it! It is a topic really close to our hearts and we think the children really learnt so much, we had some great feedback from you all thank you.

This term we will be learning all about 'Animals'. Where they come from, unusual animals, habitats, what they eat, patterns etc. If you have anything you would like to share in relation to this topic please do let us know!

What's new this term?

We will be introducing a new fruit/veg of the week for the children to sample. We noticed during snack times the children are not being very adventurous with their choices so we thought we would introduce something new every week to explore, have a little taste, lick or smell and see if they might like something new. Please do provide snack as normal though!

Claire will be taking on a new project called 'Tales Toolkit' that promotes communication and language and early literacy. More info to follow soon!

Best wishes
Red Dragon Team

A message from Claire O'Connor our lead fundraiser on our pre-school committee 'WE NEED YOUR HELP!'

2021 promises to be an exciting year for all of us at Red Dragon as our new Pre-school opens later this year!

Red Dragon is a key part of our community and brings not only an exceptional setting for our children but also a hub for our parents to meet. With limited opportunity to fundraise this year we wondered if you could help?

Could you, your extended family or maybe even the businesses you work for donate to our Charity that is fundamental within our community?

Anything at this time, £5, £10 or more, will help and go a long way collectively to buy furnishings such as chairs, tables and storage solutions! Any way you think you could help; we would be keen to hear from you!

Many thanks – The Red Dragon Team

