



Horn End News

...from our recent issue

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...providing **FIRST CLASS**
education and care.

Reading all around !

Recent research has found that government strategies i.e. literacy hour has not improved reading skills and that in some cases children over the age of seven are unable to read. Worryingly after the age of 7 schools are no longer required to teach children to read.

In our Toby Talls room at Horn End we have a book share scheme for 4 year olds and encourage pre reading skills throughout every day .Children are taught to recognise their own name and that print has meaning in a wide range of situations.

Book Treasure Boxes are part of a libraries initiative to help reading skills in nursery age children and these will be given to you free of charge the term after your child's third birthday.

Nappies

Your help would be appreciated if you could bring in just one small bag of nappies a week in the Tommy thumbs room as we have limited storage space Please just bring in the number of nappies that your child will need for the week. Many Thanks Duncan

Health and Exercise at Horn End

Children are naturally active and get involved in physical play on a daily basis. This is important as gaining physical skills has a major impact on a child's ability to learn, for example:

- The ability to draw or write rests on children gaining sufficient physical strength, manipulation and fine motor control
- Children can only dress themselves if they have learnt to balance and to co-ordinate and control their movements.

Physical activity is also a key factor in ensuring good health. Being active through physical play will encourage your child to continue being active later in life, helping them to maintain a healthy weight, to develop stamina, flexibility and strength, to decrease their risk of heart disease and increase their self-esteem and wellbeing.

We value this aspect of your child's development and therefore recently selected a few members of our team to attend a Top Start/Top Tots course which focussed on activities to improve physical well being for children aged 2-5 yrs.

The training was in two parts; there was a Top Tots / Top Start session, focusing on physical play, led by a qualified trainer and subsequently input from the Community Dietician on healthy snack and health promotion. We received some resource cards to use within the nursery these cards link into the Early Years Curriculum.

We have implemented a Top Tots activity into our outdoor play on a daily basis. Please speak to your child's key worker if you would like to see in more detail what your child is taking part in whilst outdoors