



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

Est. 1990

# Horn End News

## Developing Writing Skills at Home and Nursery

Children's minds thrive on detail imaginatively presented in context. To encourage them to write in their role-play, children need inspiring role models, and must see exactly how grown-ups write in their work – who they are, where they are, what they are writing and why. Here are some ideas we use at nursery and you could easily do at home to help your child.

### 1. **Wonderful wallpaper**

The more children draw, the easier they will find learning to write. The backs of unwanted wallpaper rolls are invaluable for enticing children to draw 'big scale', inside and outside (sellotape to a board on the grass and use garden kneeling mats, for children to lie on, on their tummies). Children can draw the 'longest truck in the world, with a thousand wheels', the 'biggest dinosaur with a million teeth', and roadways, treasure maps etc.

### 2. **Small world inspiration**

Stick a length of wallpaper, face side down, across several tables laid side-by-side. Encourage children to place small world figures related to their current role-play interests, on the paper, and to talk through scenarios, drawing details on the paper, as necessary e.g. a long, long fire hose pipe attached to a fire engine, and trailing along a pavement, waves lashing around a pirate ship (with a shark about to 'surface!'), 'help' speech bubbles etc.

### 3. **'Official' clipboards**

Children love writing on **clipboards**, and feel very 'grown-up'. Keep clipboards, always with a pencil attached on a string, in shoeboxes, with a small dispenser of sticky tape and pre-cut pieces of paper for notices, labels, prices etc., in all areas close by to wherever children are playing, including of course, outside.

### 4. **Smooth writing!**

**Clear plastic paper wallets** are ideal for encouraging young children to draw and write in their own way, using washable felt-tipped pens. Children love the smooth, gliding sensation of writing on plastic. Marks can be instantly wiped away with a slightly damp Jay-cloth. Many children enjoy this, because it means 'mistakes' can be easily rectified and, of course, it is paper-saving! Use wallets on clipboards with a pen tied on, instead of a pencil. Use for phone messages, shopping lists, price lists, menus etc.

Volume 13, Issue 6

August 2010

## Special points of interest

- ✦ Writing Skills
- ✦ Activities and special days
- ✦ Stay and play
- ✦ Tesco vouchers
- ✦ Managers memo

- William had lots of fun making his round pizza.
- He showed a desire to help with personal hygiene as we talked about the importance of washing our hands



## Stay and Play

It was lovely to see many parents taking the opportunity to stay and play last month. We plan to have a stay and play day every month. Our next stay and play will be on Thursday 19th August 2010 from 8.00-9.00 am. If the dates or times are not convenient to you don't worry parents are welcome anytime.

## DIARY DATES

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup>** All the children in Toby will be taking part in pass the parcel!!!

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup>** Baby Smalls will be baking ginger bread men

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup>** All the babies will be talking part in junk modelling. Please could they all bring in an empty food box.

The Tommy thumbs will be talking about their families. Please could all children bring in a family photo for this activity.

Toby Talls will be writing and then sending a card to their own home address.

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup>** Tommy Thumbs will be baking biscuits. Toby Talls will be dancing to different types of old style music.

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup>** Toby Talls will be making their own ice cream.

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup>** The Tommy Thumbs will be tasting different drinks which will include fizzy water and fruit smoothies.

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup>** Tommy Thumbs will be taking their own photographs using the nursery camera.

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup>** Tommy Thumbs will be making their own musical instrument and using it during singing time.

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup>** Please could all the Baby Smalls bring in a baby photo to look at during circle time.

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup>** Toby Talls will be taking part in show and tell.

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup>** The Baby Smalls are planning a trip to the baby group at Little Strawberries.

- Here are the Toby Talls tasting some very nice cheese on their recent visit to the supermarket.
- This encouraged showing an interest in the world in which they live in.



## Managers memo

Please remember to let me know if you wish to increase your child's sessions in September. I can only book on a first come first served basis and spaces are filling fast. Some children have left for school slightly earlier due to summer holidays so I also have some spare sessions during August. We will be holding an Open Day on Thursday 9th September so make a note in your diaries. This will be from 3.30-6.30pm. Please let any friends and family know too. We hope you can attend. Emma

- Baby Smalls enjoyed their trip to the park with the parachute on a very windy day. The Babies enjoyed exploring the outdoor environment



**Horn End Nursery Premises At**  
Lamascote Road, Stafford, Egg Lane, Hixon,  
& Wharf Road, Rugeley.

We can now e-mail photos to you of your child at nursery. Please make sure we have your correct email address

Phone: 01889-584400  
Fax: 01889-584400  
Email: rugeley@hornend.co.uk

