

# THE EARLY YEARS ECHO

Discovering our world, one day at a time...

November 2019

We believe children are powerful, competent and rich in potential.

We provide an environment that promotes creativity and playfulness encompassed in awe and wonder.

We empower our children to become curious and confident individuals who are co-constructors of their own journey, and researchers in their own right.

## We have had a wonderful month!

This month the children have shown a huge interest in performance, and this interest has even extended outdoors. The children have been busy developing our outdoor environment designing their own dressing room! We have added new costumes and instruments to the outdoor provision so the children can continue to develop their interests whilst outdoors.

“It sounds so much louder when you do it outside.” Nathan



“Tickets please!”

Georgie



“This can be the mic so everyone can hear us.”

Ella



“Who wants to be in our band?”

Amelie



# Save the date!

## Dates for this Half Term

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December – ‘Carols Around The Campfire’**

**\*Please join us after school for hot chocolate, juice, and biscuits for an evening of Christmas songs around the campfire.**

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December – EYFS Pantomime**

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December – Carol Singing around Moorside**

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December – Flu Vaccine (Reception only)**

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December – St Matthews Church Service**

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December – EYFS Nativity performance of ‘Everyone Loves A Baby’**

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas party (PM)**

We encourage widening the children's experiences, and so we try to take the children out within the local area regularly. Sometimes we look for parent helpers at limited notice, so if you might be available please sign up on our availability sheet in the entrance to let us know if there are any times where you would be able to join us.

We can then look at this list and get in touch with parents and extended families directly to arrange this.

Any other pre-planned events will have a specific sign-up sheet and you will be informed about these via letters, Facebook and text message.

## EYFS Email

We have got our email address up and running again! We would love to receive any emails from you and your child about the

adventures you have been up to or anything you would like to share with us. We understand that weekends are very busy and you may not have time to add photos in the me, my family, my world books so please feel free to send it in via email.

[eyfs@benedictbiscopacademy.co.uk](mailto:eyfs@benedictbiscopacademy.co.uk)

## Nativity Costumes

Please could you have your child's Nativity costume in a carrier bag with their name on in school by **Friday 6th December**.



**Please add us on Facebook to keep up to date with what children have been up to!**

**Please feel free to leave a positive comment on the children's latest interests and experiences.**

# Beach School

(Full time Reception)

Children are continuing to thrive from the explorative, inspiring, and investigative experience of Beach School, where this month they have been searching for treasure. The children have had the opportunity to develop their team working skills, working cooperatively to dig, find, and collect beach treasure. With their bags full of treasure, the children's scientific enquiry skills were put to the test when they were challenged to classify their objects. The children created their own categories, organising their treasure by size, colour, and shape etc. The children then buried their treasure and created treasure maps for the other children to follow in order to find the buried treasure. They supported each other by providing their peers with directional clues.

X marks the spot!



Please continue to check the parent's entrance for dates for your child's Beach School session, and please ensure that when it is your child's session, they come to school in old clothes and bring a pair of wellies in a bag.

# Anti-Bullying Week

During anti-bullying week the children in EYFS looked at how to be a good friend. The children read stories about the importance of friendship, and they drew their ideas about what it means to be a good friend from what they had heard and read.

*“The boy in the story was trying to help the penguin find his home. If you help someone then that’s being a good friend.”*

*“The penguin in the story didn’t listen to the boy and that’s not being a good friend. You’ve always got to listen to your friends.”*

*“The penguin didn’t say thank you to the boy when he helped him find his home. That wasn’t being a good friend. You need to remember to say ‘thank you’ to be a good friend.”*

The children created various pieces of art work to represent how we are all different, and whilst creating their art work they added positive words and phrases, which they believed represents a good friend. Another story of focus during anti-bullying week was ‘Frozen’, with the children delving deeper into the message of friendship in the story and how Elsa and Anna don’t always make the right choices. The children developed their own ‘Frozen’ staging and enjoyed creating their own characters, all of who had positive characteristics, which they loved acting out for their peers.



The children have also had lots of fun creating friendship potions. The children wrote their own recipes to include qualities of a good friend, before then creating their potions by adding their own ingredients to correspond with each of the qualities they had come up with.



# The Solar System

The solar system has been at the centre of the children's interests this term. This interest stemmed from the children's creations of rockets within our studio, which naturally led to discussions around where these rockets go when they leave earth. Video provocations of the universe were set up within the 'Exploration Space', which immediately ignited the children's curiosity further. The children began sharing their existing knowledge and understanding of the solar system, while others raised questions in order to obtain knowledge and understanding. Books and the internet were used by the children as a source to carry out research in order to find answers to their questions. The children then independently recorded their findings through drawings and writing.

*"Those are the planets in the solar system."*



*"The sun is a burning ball of gas."*



*"That planet is Earth – that is where we live."*



*"That planet is Saturn because it's got a ring of dust around it."*



### Early Years Visitors

Any visitors coming into Early Years are kindly asked to go to the main school office to sign in and then be brought around by a member of the office team. May we also remind you that mobile phones are not permitted in our Early Years; either inside or in our outdoor area. We thank you for your support with this and we are sure you understand that the protection and safety of our children is paramount.

### Wednesday 4th December— Carols around the camp fire!

Get wrapped up and come and enjoy the start of our festivities. We can't wait to hear your beautiful singing voices as we sing Christmas carols and enjoy a hot chocolate around the fire pit.

This event will be starting at 3:45pm till 4:45pm.

We hope to see you all there!

## Hidden Treasures?



Please keep an eye out for our 'Hidden Treasures' board in our Early Years entrance, where we are regularly asking for donations of things that you may have laying around and unused. We are currently looking for:

- Junk modelling (recycling materials)
- Dinosaurs
- Baby bottles, nappies, and changing mat
- Thick cardboard
- Tubes
- Egg boxes
- Children's comics and magazines
- Tools (screwdrivers)
- Kitchen utensils

This changes regularly as we follow the children's interests and fascinations- so keep a look out!



# Thank You!



The Early Years team would like to say a huge thank you to all of the parents who gave up their evening to attend our 'Help at home' session.

We hope we answered some of your questions and that we were able to provide you with some useful activities to support your children with their Maths, reading, and writing at home. Please, as always, ask a member of our team if you have any questions about how to support your child with their learning at home, and if there is anything we can provide you with to support this.