

Blue Bell Woods Newsletter

August 2016

What are we learning at Blue Bell Woods?

Sensory Play: Why get so messy?!? Young children are oriented toward sensory experiences. From birth, children have learned about the world by touching, tasting, smelling, seeing, and hearing. Sensory play also contributes in crucial ways to brain development. Stimulating the senses sends signals to children's brains that help to strengthen neural pathways important for all types of learning. For example, as children explore sensory materials, they develop their sense of touch, which lays the foundation for learning other skills, such as identifying objects by touch, and developing fine-motor skills. The materials children work with at the sand and playdough table have many sensory attributes — they may be warm or cool, wet or dry, rough or smooth, hard or soft, textured or slimy. Discovering and differentiating these characteristics is a first step in classification, or sorting — an important part of children's scientific learning and discovery. But mainly, it is FUN!



Rice



Clay



Goo!



Scented Dough



Foam



Cloud Dough



Finger Paints



Magic Snow



Fairy Potions



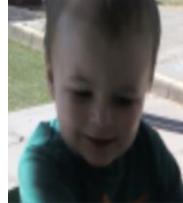
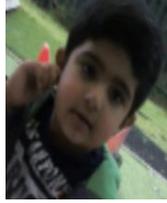
Coloured Sand

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Happy Birthday!

The following children are celebrating birthdays in August...



Jenson (1)

Alice (2)

Ava (2)

Isaac (2)

Kiaan (3)

Taylor (3)

Cooper (4)

Ellie (4)



Shannon

Staff News

We are delighted to welcome Shannon Boyd and Saffron Turner to the Over 2s Room. Shannon is a fully qualified Nursery Nurse and is experienced at working as an Early Years Practitioner in a Day Nursery. Saffron has a degree in Education and Child Hood and Youth Studies, and was previously a Room Leader in a nursery.



Saffron

Dates for your Diary

Monday 29th August 2016: **Bank Holiday** (nursery closed)

Friday 2nd September 2016, 10am-10.45am: **Mini Olympics!** Families are invited to join us for informal sporty activities, weather permitting.

Monday 5th September 2016- **Autumn Terms starts**, 2HELP and NEF sessions resume.

w/b 24th October 2016: **Half Term** (no 2HELP or NEF sessions.)

Friday 16th December 2016: End of Autumn Term



Fundraising for Messef! At Blue Bell Woods, we support the charity **Friends of Messef**, who aim to ensure the children of MESSEF orphanage in Haiti receive the basic necessities of life, plus as many extra blessings as possible. [Please visit www.friendsofmessef.webs.com](http://www.friendsofmessef.webs.com)



A message from Linda Stapleton de Martinez ~ Coordinator, Friends of Messef Orphanage

We would like to thank everyone at Blue Bell Woods Day Nursery for the wonderful donation of £200 from the photographs recently taken of the children. This money, along with all your other help via EasyFundraising, will go to help provide food and necessary supplies for the children at Messef Orphanage in Haiti, where the needs are so great. Very many thanks.

Visit www.easyfundraising.org to help raise funds while you shop!