

## Heriot watt nursery 2018 yearly over view

We thank you for continuing to support Pinocchio's at Heriot-Watt; it has been a pleasure to share your child's adventure through learning.

At Pinocchio's we believe in working in partnership with our parents to support and develop your child while taking on board any suggestions for improvements and praise. This year we are happy to say we have continued to provide / have achieved the following:

- We continue to offer nursery events such as the nursery Sports Day, Graduation, Christmas Fun Fair and Early Learning Christmas show.
- We have now introduced parent suggested events such as our Grandparent week, Parent baking day and our Family outdoor day. We will continue this in the New Year with our suggestions from our families.
- Becky and Laurie have fully implemented nursery dance classes for the children in all the playrooms each week.
- Our garden has been refurbished with suggestions from the children and parents. We have a large loose part shed filled with various resources, crates and wooden planks for the children to explore and develop their imagination through play. We have also had our large tepee built in the garden, where the children love to play inside or relax!
- We have fully implemented the daily mile initiative within the nursery with support from The Oriam which is teaching our children the importance of keeping fit and healthy through physical exercise.
- We have introduced a large selection of story sacks for families to enjoy at home; these have been well used and are supporting early literacy and quality story time with families.
- We have also introduced a large selection of schematic play sacks which families are able to take home and support their children with schemas they may be exploring.
- We are supported within the Nursery by Dawn, our Chef, who provides delicious home-cooked meals. This year Dawn has introduced a cultural meal, children's choice and recipe of the month into her monthly menu. She also has a large selection of copies of these recipes on a board outside the kitchen for our families. Jill, our nursery Cleaner, who works 10 hours per week outwith nursery hours to keep the nursery clean and hygienic. This ensures that our teams are able to focus fully on the children.
- We have a fully implemented Nursery Champion initiative and have a champion for; our community, literacy, yoga, loose part play, dance, schematic play, sensory play, Spanish, Book Bug and Eco Schools. In 2018 the champions have been working towards various aims and goals in improving the life of the centre and learning experiences for the children and plan to continue this in 2019. Stacey has recently introduced a nursery Yoga class and Carmen has begun a nursery Spanish Class. Both classes have been trialed in the Early Years and Learning room and we plan to further progress this into our other rooms in 2019 through play and everyday routines rather than classes. The children have also began to take part in our nursery champions with one of our Early learning

children choosing to be our Blenheim House champion as he is always eager to go visit the residents and has formed great relationships with them and the staff.

- We are creating a strong link with The Oriam and have been taking the children up to regular inflatable Friday sessions and they have created a multi sports class for our early years and learning children each week in the nursery.
- We introduced a cultural day each month at the beginning of 2018, where the children have been choosing a country from the world map. The staff have then celebrated this country through appropriate age and stage activities and learning opportunities. The chef has also been participating in this through adding a cultural meal to her menu each month to encourage the children to try various foods from around the world.
- We have been celebrating various festivals and family traditions through a survey sent out in 2018 and working along side our families to make these special events inclusive for all children.
- To promote health and wellbeing in the nursery for all children we have a monthly fruit and vegetable tasting, where the children choose a various fruit and vegetable for us all to taste. This has allowed the children to explore various foods and teach them the importance of healthy eating.
- Staff have been given opportunities to access regular training as well as refresher courses in which they learn new techniques that can be put into place and be passed onto their teams, such as fire awareness training.
- Our fees are inclusive of meals and nappies, formula milk and continue to offer organic cow's milk.
- All playrooms have access to their own iPads.
- We have a strong link to our community and have been on various community visits throughout the year, including trips to the museum, local shops, local play parks, soft play and galleries. We have a great partnership with Blenheim House Care Home and visit them fortnightly. They are also planning to visit us and attend our Early Learning Christmas Show this year.
- We continue to gain great feedback from the Care Inspectorate, who stated in their recent report "Staff knew the children well and could describe their needs, interests and age and stage of development. This interaction helped the children feel confident and settled in the nursery".
- We have met the Investors in People standards for the last 17 years.
- We have continued to raise money for The Edinburgh children's hospital charity, with the support from all the families the rolling total of the company is £60, 000 raised by the end of 2018.