



Rainbow Nursery

2nd Summer Term News Letter 2007

Dear Parents,

WELCOME BACK to the start of our final half term of the year before the Summer Holidays.

We welcome Hector and Daniel to Rainbow, and wish them a very happy time here with us.

Our Topic/Theme

This term we are focusing on 'Healthy Me!' The children will be learning more about their bodies and how to keep them healthy.

This week we have a dental nurse visiting to teach us how to look after our teeth, we will be making our own 3D 'sets of teeth', doing a hand washing investigation (learning the importance /need to wash our hands and when), playing and mark-making with toothpaste, exploring bubbles and more!

We will then move on to looking at how we can take care of our appearance; brushing and washing hair, washing and bathing, clean and tidy clothes etc. We will wash and dry clothes, matching pairs of socks and other items, make full-size body collages, and surprise Fathers Day (or Special Person) gifts.

We will be comparing heights, sizes of hands and feet, and making charts and graphs to record our findings.

We shall be thinking about what makes us happy, and how we can help each other feel happy at Rainbow.

We will look at Healthy Eating and the importance of eating and drinking the right things and amounts. We will explore new and interesting fruit and vegetables, using our senses, make a fruit bowl collage, fruit salad, a 'smoothie', fruit and vegetable printing and favourite fruit chart. Maybe we will also have a visit to the market or a Greengrocery.

We will then be looking at what we can do with the different parts of our bodies, and learning about the importance of exercise and fresh air.

Improving School Links and Transition

DENNINGTON School have given us access to their Sports Field/Track for practise, and also invited us to their **SPORTS DAY on 21st June**. You are all invited. Further details/times etc. to follow.

We will be planning our own mini **RAINBOW SPORTS DAY** as well. Details to follow.

We have also been invited to **EARL SOHAM SCHOOL FETE** on **Saturday 7th July**. We are welcome to have a stall and advertise Rainbow, so any ideas/ volunteers welcome!!

The above have come about as I have met recently with both Head Teachers in an effort to raise and improve links with the Schools and our Nursery (my own initiative) Both have been extremely supportive.

Mr. Steve Woods has visited here, and was very impressed. He is keen for us to link together, and I have a date booked to visit the School this term, when we can discuss this in more detail. He has already offered to help us with ICT, a strong area in the School and also one I am keen to enhance further here.

Carl Walker, the Head Teacher at Dennington School, whose daughter attended here until she started School last year, is also full of praise and support for Rainbow. He is very keen for us to link closely with them. I have visited Dennington, a lovely School, and their KS1 teacher will be visiting here this term, when we can liaise further to increase links. A joint outing has been suggested, along with our invitation to Sports Day. Jill Overbury, the Head Teacher at Bedfield School, is visiting us this week, along with their KS1 Teacher, in an effort to improve links with the School. A joint outing has also been suggested here. I shall be arranging a visit to Bedfield School as well.

This is all good news and can only help to improve transition for our children from Rainbow to 'Big School'.

Along the lines of 'increasing links' ,I have managed to create a **VERY SPECIAL LINK** with **EASTON FARM PARK!** We are going to allowed regular, all-year-round access to the Farm (even when closed!) The Owner and I will be linking closely, to try and see how Schools/Nurseries and Farms can work together to increase Children's awareness and understanding of health, food and animals etc. An exciting opportunity-I will keep you posted. We will certainly be arranging a visit for this term, and maybe in the Holidays.

Furniture/Equipment

You will hopefully have seen that most of our new furniture and equipment has arrived! We now have new storage units in the playroom, which has smartened up the Nursery and allows children easier self-access to the Resources. We have also been able to define the 'Learning Areas' more clearly. The children now have a clear area for Construction, Maths, Writing, Reading, ICT, Small-World and Role-Play. Some new tables and colourful chairs are due to arrive on Tuesday. We also have super new 'See-Through' sand and water trays! We are so lucky. I hope you like the improvements-I think it has given the place a 'little lift', but retains the homeliness and cosiness of Rainbow. Do come and have a peek, if you haven't done so already!

The Garden

This term I am hoping to really get started with our garden. I have had 2 brilliant volunteers- are there any more out there?

I would really like a larger wooden (2 storey) playhouse, wooden climbing frame, a canopy/all-weather covering, wooden picnic benches/tables, willow tunnels/ cones, MDF board-activity frames for the fences and a growing/gardening/vegetable patch. The sandpit needs a new lid and the sandpit, fence and shed could do with re-painting. Any ideas of Who? Where? What? Any businesses that might be able to help fund some of these ideas/resources? Any ideas of where we might look for some of these resources-seen any bargains? Can you help with your time?

Website/E-mails

If you haven't done so already, do check out our new website. It is: <http://rainbownurserysaxtead.netfirms.com>. We also have an e-mail address which is: RainbowNurserySaxtead@suffolkonline.net or rainbownurserysaxtead@hotmail.co.uk. If you would like letters sent home via e-mail, to speed communication and to save paper and printing costs, and haven't done so already, please let us know your e-mail address on the slip attached at the end of this letter. Again, if you haven't already filled in the form.....I would also like your permission for photos of your children at work and play, to be used on our website. I am also updating our publicity material and in the process of getting some professional advertising leaflets and brochure sleeves made. If you are happy for photos of your children to be used either on the website and/or in the advertising, please sign the permission slip at the end of the letter.

Tesco/Sainsbury Vouchers-Reminder!

Don't forget, we are collecting Tesco Computer for Schools vouchers and also Sainsbury Active Kids vouchers. Collection tubs are in our cloakroom/entrance hall. They are filling up nicely, but we need LOTS MORE!! Thank you to those who have already been collecting. Hopefully we can get some software for our own new PC and maybe some more play equipment for the garden. Please spread the word amongst families/friends/neighbours- let them know we are collecting too. We need vouchers in by 22nd June please.

Holiday Club

We are getting closer!! I now need firm numbers, in order to arrange Staffing. Please let me know if you would like any places, and remind friends/family who may be thinking about it, to book up now. Forms available from me. If you would like/could take a poster to display, then please ask. Payment with booking form if possible please.

Session Reservation Forms

Please would you also let us know what sessions you would like to reserve for next term (September). We are getting lots of new enquiries, and I anticipate a few more over the Summer. As some of these will be younger children, and require a higher adult/child ratio, it is important for us to think about this now, so again staffing can be arranged! Thank you!

Sun Care

Please remember to send a named sun hat for your child. Also please apply some sun protection cream to your child **before** their session. If they are with us for a whole day, cream may need reapplying. If you are happy for us to do this, please also send a named bottle of suncream in with them.

Thank you for your continuing support.

Very best wishes,

Sheena.

forms to follow.....

Please delete as appropriate.

Name of child: _____

I am/am not happy for photos of my child to be used on the Rainbow website.

I am/am not happy for photos of my child to be used for the Rainbow brochure/Rainbow advertising leaflets.

I would like/would not like to receive letters via e-mail

My e-mail address is: _____

Signature of parent/guardian _____

Date: _____