

Leapfrog Newsletter

March 2011 www.leapfrogkindergarten.org

Children's illnesses, treatments and safety

Although the CPR and First Aid courses are full we still have spaces available for the "Children's illnesses, treatments and safety" session led by Sarah Walker.

This is a 2.5 hour course (550 HKD). In the course, common illnesses such as: **Fever, Common cold, Flu, Ear infections, Diarrhoea, Vomiting, Dehydration, Rashes, Safe house and home, And not common but necessary to know: Meningitis, SIDS (Sudden Infant Death Syndrome)**. Perfect for both parents and helpers.

Wed April 6th from 7.00pm-9.30pm

If you are interested please let Ailish know at admin@leapfrogkindergarten.org

IMPORTANT DATES

Time goes by so fast when you are having fun!

- **5th April** - Public Holiday, no school.
- **15th April** - Last day of term. Party day. Half day for Kindy from 11am-1pm for both groups. Combined party for all playgroups from 9am-11am
- **May 3rd** - First day of NEW Summer Term
- **May 10th & June 6th** - Public Holidays, no school
- **June 30th** - Party day, last day of Summer Term.

Staff First Aid skills

Here at Leapfrog we are always trying to improve our First Aid skills. Last week, Kristrun and Fe completed an intensive full day course in Paediatric First Aid skills at Annerley. To follow up on our course we have updated the First Aid Kit in the Kindergarten classroom and shared the most relevant information with the rest of the staff members.

- **THE FIRST AID KIT BOX** is in the KINDERGARTEN CLASSROOM on top of the CD player in the cabinet on the left hand side when you walk in.
- **EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER** and our address are to be found on **NOTICE BOARDS** inside and outside the classrooms (in case of calling an ambulance in an emergency).

SUMMER TERM 2011

Tuesday 3rd May - Thursday 30th June

Please note!

Thanks to everyone who has re-enrolled for Playgroup next term. There has been a lot of movement between classes and we now have some spaces available in most Playgroup classes.

Please let Ailish know if you would like any additional sessions, and do let any friends know who may be interested in joining our wonderful

Playgroup!



Kindergarten

School year 2011-2012

Current and potential Kindergarten Parents!

Enrolments are picking up for the next school year and classes are filling up fast. Our K1 afternoon class is nearly full and if you would like to enrol your child contact Ailish directly or fill out the application form from our website and send to us.

Our current K1 students are all automatically registered for K2 from Autumn 2011. Please let us know as soon as possible if there will be any changes to this normal transition.



Playgroup News



Our Playgroup theme for the early part of the month has been 'Food'. The fruit and vegetable crafts, activities, and games on offer were an exciting way for the children to learn about healthy eating! Many of the children were able to identify a variety of fruit and vegetables, and they also learned about how they grow. The children particularly enjoyed carrot lacing, crafts such as making a basketful of fruit and an apple tree.

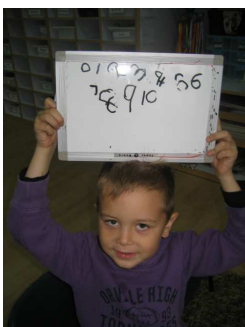
For the last two weeks of March, the topic will be 'Baby Animals'. Children will be working with books such as 'Three Billy Goats Gruff', 'Old McDonald had a farm' and singing animal songs, especially focusing on farm animals.



Have you seen our song collection? Please visit our website and find our music collection so you can sing along with your child at home. Have a fantastic month :)

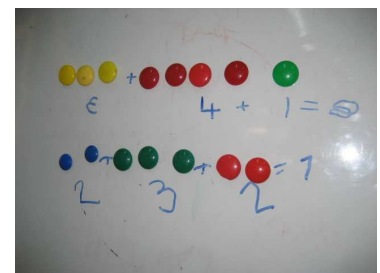
Progress Reports

Here at **Leapfrog Kindergarten**, we feel that it is important to keep parents fully informed about all the different things that happen in the classroom during the course of each term. Our Curriculum, (based on the U.K. Early Years Foundation Stage), is laid down in the School Handbook, and by email we issue monthly newsletters, which highlight the specific material that has been covered in the previous few weeks. At intervals during the school year, we also send a progress report which details each child's responses to the different activities.



Our assessment in the Kindergarten is ongoing, and it is both formal and informal. 'Formative' assessment is based on observation, note taking, reflection and evaluation, and it guides our future long term and day-to-day planning. It encompasses all areas of the curriculum, such as 'Communication, Language and Literacy', and 'Problem Solving, Reasoning and Numeracy'. The written reports are also printed out two times a year, and together with selected examples of work, form a child's individual portfolio. This academic year, we have already sent the portfolios home at Christmas and will be sending them out again at the end of the Summer Term.

The portfolio for the K2 class will then form a summary of progress made towards the early learning goals during their entire time at Kindergarten, which is known as the 'summative' assessment. We are currently collecting the portfolios back, so we can refresh the samples of the children's work and play for your interest and information.



Kindergarten News

Both of the Kindergarten Classes have been working very hard since their return after the Chinese New Year Holiday. K2 have been revising all the material already covered in Unit 2, 3 and 4 of the 'Get Reading Right' scheme, including words with double letters such as ll, ss,ff, and zz, such as 'buzz'. I have also introduced some of the level 5 words which include words with the 'ch', 'sh', 'wh' and 'th' combinations, such as 'shop' and 'moth', and the camera words like, do, says, what, going and give.

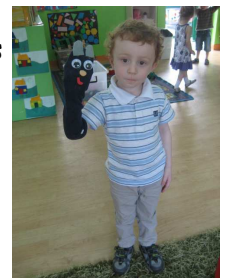
K1 have been continuing to identify, match and write the Unit 1 and 2 sounds and camera words.

In numeracy, K2 have been adding firstly 2 and then 3 groups of different coloured counters together, using the correct symbols to record the sums and the results. They have also arranged 2D and 3D shapes in order of size.



K1 have been writing numbers on their individual whiteboards, using rhymes to help them with correct formation. They rearranged jumbled numbers into the correct order, matched numbers, and identified the 'biggest' and 'smallest' groups of counters made up of different colours. They also found items that were longer and shorter than a drinking straw. Both groups made number caterpillars to help with counting, made their own clocks to help them with telling the time. They measured and ordered their height and the size of their hands and feet for a wall display.

Our two main themes have been 'Houses and Homes' and 'Use your Imagination.' We have created castles, teepees and bird houses, and a wide range of puppets and items that can be used to enhance imaginative play in our new puppet theatre. These have included spoon puppets, finger puppets, glove puppets, crowns, wizard's hats and magic wands.



We will conclude the term with a range of songs and crafts related to 'Easter', with a presentation by both classes on the morning April 15th.

New Photos on photo site

