



# NEWSLETTER

**FROM THE DESK OF MR TAGG**

Dear 345 family,

Welcome to our first newsletter for 2017. It's already March and the year is well under way. I'm sure all our new families are also settled and enjoying the year with us. Your children have all settled in well and are learning happily.

We have started the year off with a number of happenings including Valentine's Day and Special Person's Day. The 345 children enjoyed an exciting Puppet Show, our CHP children have been active on the sports fields playing Softball and Cricket against schools in our area, we have formed a new CHP Boys Choir, and our children have enjoyed many exciting learning experiences in their classrooms.

If I were to ask you whether your children should be playing at school (not playing the fool), what would your answer be? Would you agree that playing at school, in both 345 and CHP is vital to your child's learning and development and that the more they play, the more creative and balanced they will grow up to be? Playing develops our Right brain, the creative, fun, alternative side. Creativity is something that occurs naturally in all of us, but slowly dwindles as we develop the left side of our brain.

In 345 play time is an integral part of our children's development, it involves the senses of touch, taste, sight and smell and stimulates the brain while the body remains active. We live in a society today where our children do not play. They sit in front of a screen and absorb what they see. They don't have gardens to run in, trees to climb and bicycles to ride. Gone are the days of our children riding their bike and walking in the street as we did when we were growing up. It's for this reason that play at school, no matter what age, is so important.

At 345 and CHP we understand this. We ensure our little ones play as much as possible – they learn while they play. Our children in CHP are encouraged to run, play, laugh and have fun whether it's during break time, afterschool at aftercare or on the sports field. Our Thinking Skills programme encourages the right brain to think, be creative and to be alternative and we can see the results in our children.

I came across this very interesting article on this topic. Please take 5 minutes out of your busy day to sit back and read. You will enjoy it.

<http://ilslearningcorner.com/2016-01-left-brain-schools-in-right-brain-world-lack-of-play-schools-rise-in-learning-delays/>

Should you wish to chat to me about anything that's on your mind, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards



Stewart Tagg



## LADY BUGS



We wish all our new parents and children a hearty welcome. We have had a busy time getting acquainted with all the outside equipment and inside toys that we are allowed to play with every day, and to meet and play with the other children. Best of all is to ride the bikes around the track. Some of us have been a bit reluctant to say goodbye to Mom and stay at school but have found out that it is quite pleasant and enjoyable learning about different things and playing in the mud with the sandpit toys, amongst other things.

Our first project, a painting activity was to finger paint a frame and put the buttons on top of the glue in the four corners of the frame, messy and fun— a bit of good eye-hand co-ordination there. During the theme “Myself” we also learned about our finger prints and that nobody has two that are alike. We enjoyed sticking paper onto the drawn handle of the magnifying glass and putting our fingers into the ink pad and making finger prints inside the round magnifying glass. We had great fun putting pieces of macaroni on top of glue onto a drawn skeleton for our theme about “My Body”

Our next art activity was really fun as we decorated our card for special person’s day. Our feet were painted to make the body of the duck. Some of us thought it was really ticklish and some of us were not quite sure what this was all about. We spent an exciting morning with our special person. We sang some songs and then decorated our cupcakes, what fun. Our next adventure was making our Valentine cards, this was also fun as our hands were painted and we put them onto a pre-printed heart shape. We all enjoyed dressing up for Valentine’s Day in red, white or pink. We are all starting to settle down, and enjoy our mornings at school.







## PARROTS

The brand new Parrots Class is full of excitement with the start of a new year and a new teacher. We have already done so much this year completing the themes: Myself, My Body, Healthy Living and My Family. We also saw how clever we all are by saying our colours, shapes and counting. We made shapes out of play dough, which was some messy fun. We were excited to play dress up and discovered we could be anyone we wanted as long as we could imagine it. We explored our new book corner and discovered a love for books. We had a very exciting Special Person's Day making cupcakes and playing with our very own special person. We all dressed up in pink, red and white for Valentine's Day and looked super cute. We look forward to an exciting and fun filled year in the Parrots Class.







Wow! It has certainly been a whirlwind month. The new little Owls have hit the ground running, and we have had a fantastic couple of weeks in class. We took a few days to get used to the rules and the routines in our new class, but we seem to have adapted nicely. A few new faces have joined us from other schools, but we helped them to fit right in. We have had a few days where we got really messy, playing with glitter, toothpaste and all sorts. We used glitter to demonstrate how germs can be spread from one person to another. When we learned about Healthy Living, we used toothpaste to paint a picture of teeth. It was so much fun feeling the squishy toothpaste squeezing through our fingertips. And it smelt so minty fresh! We celebrated Special Person's Day on 10 February. It was such a wonderful time spent with our grannies and grandpas and other special people in our lives. We sang a few special songs for them and then decorated cupcakes, after which we devoured them in just a few bites! We took a few pictures with our friends and our special people with the props that Teacher Tracy set up in a photo booth. We really enjoyed that! On 14 February, we celebrated the day of love, Valentine's Day. The day was filled with hearts and lots of red, pink and white. We spent time making our friends and teachers feel special. It has been a great, fun-filled time spent in the Owls Class at 345 Nursery School.

***No kid is unsmart. Every kid's a genius at something. Our job is to find it. And then encourage it. -- Robin Sharma***

