

Pre-School Newsletter February 2018

Such a busy term so far and half term starts today! All of our new children continue to settle well and really enjoy life at WUFA. Over the past few weeks the children have done too much to put into one newsletter but some of their activities have been: Cooking Ginger Bread men, a trip to the Library, trips to the woods for a hot chocolate, lots of singing and music and movement! We have also continued to focus on numbers of the week, phonics, individual interests and much more. Please do ask your child's keyperson if you would like a full run down on your individual child's learning!

Last week we were thrilled to have a visit from Woodstock's current Mayor Cllr Patricia Redpath (Trish), who kindly presented us with a cheque. This money was raised at the Mayor's carols back in December and we are very grateful to be the Mayors nominated Charity!

It was also interesting to learn more about the history of WUFA formerly known as "Woodstock Under Fives", Trish was an integral part in the set up of WUFA and the initial fundraising over 30 years ago by Woodstock residents. This 2 year fundraising extravaganza enabled "Woodstock Under Fives" to purchase the very building we are in now.

At the time they raised £20K and in 2018 terms this would equate to a whopping 50 K! As WUFA reached it's 30 year anniversary at the end of last year we will be writing a more extensive history of WUFA over the next few months. Look out for details soon of a fundraising event in May. This event will be looking at getting the original founders of Woodstock Under Fives (WUFA), the Town Council and current Mayor and you all as current parents together to celebrate 30 years!



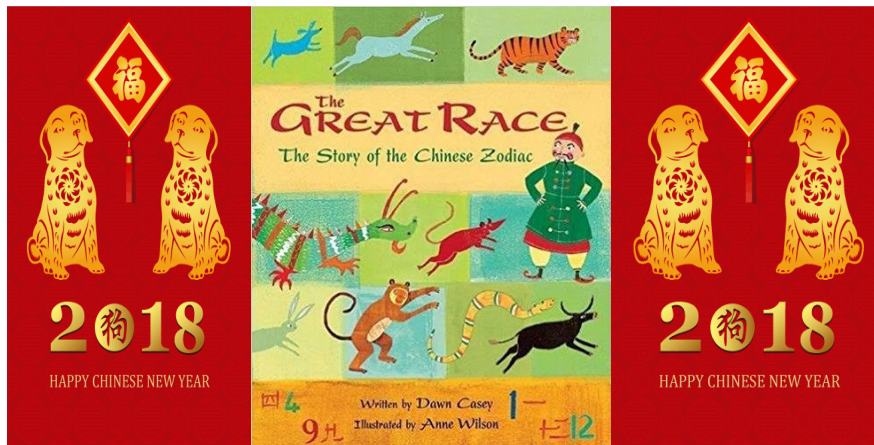
Individual Learning, Interests and WOW moments:

Chinese New Year:

After half term we are celebrating Chinese New Year. This year it is the year of the Dog. We will be enhancing all of the children's continuous provision inside and outside with exciting activities such as transforming our role play area into a Chinese restaurant, cooking Chinese Moon cakes, creating lanterns and fans, and learning to sing London Bridge has fallen down in Cantonese.

Each child's Keyperson/buddy is responsible for their child's individual Learning Journey and planning whilst at WUFA. If your child has any particular interests, please do let us know so we can incorporate it into their planning. We also like to receive WOW moments and feedback from you as parents.

Our focus story for the next two weeks is the "The Great Race". This is a lovely story which is all about Chinese New Year. As always, we will also be working hard to consolidate all of our children's learning from this term.



Dates:

March	
1 st Thursday	World Book day - Children can come in dressed up as their favourite book characters or just anything!
14 th Wednesday	Parents evening @ 6.15pm - 7.30pm: Please speak to your child's keyperson or put a note in the Pre-School links book if you can attend. This is an ideal time to have a catch up, look at your child's learning journey. Due to the number of children we have we are only able to allocate 10 minutes, if you have more than one child here then a little longer!
May	
Sat 5 th TBC	Celebrating 30 years - WUFA 2018 open afternoon. Parents can stay and play, new parents visit. More details to follow, please save the date!

Important information from the Oxfordshire County Council Funding team:

Early Years Pupil Premium

WUFA may be able to claim up to £300 per year of funding to support your 3 or 4 year old's development, learning and care. To find out if you are eligible please follow this link:

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/early-years-pupil-premium-information-parents>

Free Early Education for 2 Year Olds

WUFA may also be able to claim funding if your child is 2 years old if you require any help with this please call/email the office.

<http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/twoyearoldfunding>

30 hours free childcare

Working parents may be eligible for an extra 15 hours childcare a week from September 2017. All 3 to 4-year-olds in England are entitled to 15 hours a week, or 570 hours a year of free early education.

Families where both parents/carers are working (or one if a lone parent) and earn at least the equivalent of minimum wage for 16 hours a week but under £100,000 per year may be eligible for 30 hours (from September 2017).

Please be aware that the entitlement to a free place does not offer a guarantee of a place at any one provider or a particular pattern of provision.

Check if you are eligible and sign up to 30 hours childcare and/or tax free childcare:

<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>

Useful Contact numbers, emails, links

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Early Years Pupil Premium: <http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/eyp>



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