Dear parents,

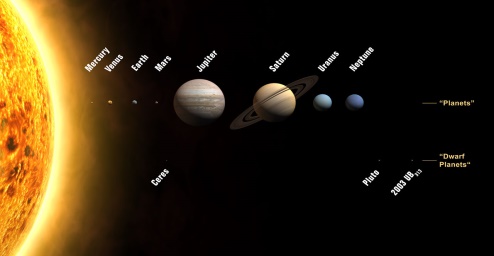
HAPPY NEW YEAR!

By now you are probably back in the swing of school, nursery and work, as if Christmas never happened at all. It seems like an age ago when the children were performing their Christmas play for you at the church. We were so proud of them and hope you were too. Hopefully you all had an amazing holiday season, spending time with close family and friends.

We will be celebrating Chinese New Year which is on Saturday 28th January. Celebrations for Chinese New Year can last about 2 weeks, however we will be taking the week leading up to the 28th as our celebratory week.

This month, we are welcoming some new faces to our baby and toddler room: Alice, Evie, Phoebe and Holly, all of whom are about a year old. I’m sure you would like to join in with welcoming them to the Monique’s family.

Wednesday sports sessions have begun and the children who participated the last 2 weeks really enjoyed it. A young chap called Jack from SportFocus UK was their leader and they seem to respond well to his instructions.

We have started a project on Space and the Planets. The children will be discovering new and interesting facts about the universe. If you have any books or activities at home in relation to this, now is the time to bring them out and discuss them with your child. Perhaps even watch a documentary about the Universe, the Planets, the Sun or any other topic you feel your child may enjoy. You’d be surprised how much they will absorb.

Warm clothing…..the weather at the moment is very deceptive with the sun being out and seemingly warm. However the garden during the winter only gets a small amount of sun and can get bitterly cold. As you know, we like the children to spend time in the garden regardless of the so it’s imperative that the children have enough warm layers and named coats, named hats and named gloves at nursery. As always, we will do our best to make sure items do not go astraybut we cannot guarantee that the odd glove won’t run away temporarily, especially if there is no name on it.

Please can we ask you to take some time and make comments, stick photos or write a little bit about what your child is doing with you at home and put it into the Learning Journals. We have only had 1 parent contribute towards the Learning Journals and it really does make such a difference. It allows the key person to strengthen their bond with their key child, sitting down to talk about the pictures/drawings the child made at home, or explaining a photograph that mummy and daddy have stuck in. Not to mention the great value it can add to the staff’s knowledge of your child and their development. There are often things that children do with their parents that they do not do at nursery and vice versa. We will be making a conscious effort to ensure our entries are completed efficiently over the next few months, with your January/February entry containing your child’s progress checks.

Remember, if you’d like to sit down with your key person at any time about anything at all (your child’s progress, concerns about their eating/sleeping/behaviour, suggestions for projects etc) please feel free to arrange a time with them. We are here to support you and your family, as well as care for your child and we will always endeavour to help if we are able to.

May I take this opportunity to remind you about the after school club….we are already very full for September so if you know you’ll be needing after school care, or want to find out more about it, please speak to Stef. You can call or e-mail her, but it’s really important that you do so because we do not automatically keep places open for nursery children.

That’s all for now