

Blossom Nursery News



Blossom Nursery
Umm Al Sheif

“We are committed to providing a learning space that is both secure and stimulating”

Blossom Management Team.



Blossom Village Nursery
Umm Suqeim 1

Skillplay Issue

4th November 2010

Blossom News In Brief

Dear Blossom and Blossom Village Parents,

Firstly and most importantly a BIG thank you from Blossom to all the parents and children for making our Halloween Festival such a success. If you paid and pledged monies please look out for an MSF Certificate in your child's bag next week. We will be proudly announcing the children's names as donors. However, if you would prefer to stay anonymous, please advise the office staff accordingly.

In this issue, we would like to introduce you to our current Blossom Theme, Learning Goals and our Skillplay schedule, to better help you understand our ethos in educating your children.

We have lots of fantastic upcoming events over the next few months so please do take a look at the Blossom 'events calendar' to see what we have in store for you so keep your diaries free!

Last but not least, as Dubai's weather starts to cool we have now closed the Blossom pool at the Blossom Nursery site. However, our waterplay sessions will continue so that the children will be able to experience sessions focused around floating & sinking, full & empty, coloured & clear, wet & dry with buckets, basins and toys.

Have a great 2 weeks ahead!

The Blossom Management Team

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Skillplay at Blossom



Blossom Skillplay afternoons include a variety of activities to stimulate the senses and provoke a strong exploratory impulse. Activities include; Sensory Exploration, Water Wonder, Music Makers, Movie Magic, Fitness Friends, Brain Training, Mini Chefs, Get Crafty, Yoga Buddies, Ball Skills, Community Helpers & Recycle Crafts.

Please see below the afternoon schedule to help you select the day/s you wish your child to attend.

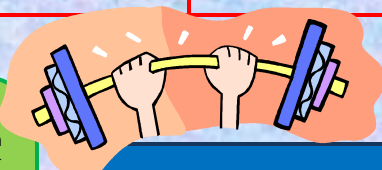


Blossom Skillplay Schedule - Preschool				
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Mini Chefs	Yoga Buddies	Music Makers	Movie Magic	Water Wonder
Parachute Play	Community Helpers	Brain Training	Ball Skills	Recycle Crafts

Water Wonder – The most important resource on the planet and also the most fun, the children will learn water safety and confidence as well as gaining respect for the importance of water conservation.



Fitness Friends – Outdoor life is limited in Dubai which is why our indoor gym provides a great get-away for the children to run, jump, shout and play in a safe and stimulating environment. Doing what children do best. Fitness friends encourages them to use every part of their body, giving little muscles the work out they need.



Blossom Skillplay Schedule - Toddlers				
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Fitness Friends	Yoga Buddies	Sensory Exploration	Mini Chefs	Water Wonder
Brain Training	Community Helpers	Music Makers	Get Crafty	Movie Magic



Music & Movement – Introducing rhythm, pitch, tempo and volume at an early age encourages development and listening skills. Guiding them to move and sing along to age appropriate songs teaches children that there is music to be found in every part of life.

Blossom Skillplay Schedule - Babies				
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Movie Magic	Sensory Exploration	Music makers	Mini Chefs	Fitness Friends
Get Crafty	Water Wonders	Sensory Exploration	Brain Training	Music & Movement



Themes and Learning Goals

We are now introducing a new theme in the nursery that will run for a period of 6 weeks. Homes & Harvest not only coincides with weather changes but introduces the flavour of festivities. Adult led planning takes place in every classroom where goals and milestones are what we strive to achieve with the children. In a fun and friendly way topics come to life through crafts, songs and classroom displays. In our Home & Harvest theme examples of topics to be covered are:

- **North American forest homes and celebrations.** Activities covered will be such things as creating dream catchers, stained glass maple leaves and many more. Learning goals for these topics cover skills such as awareness of space, attention and concentration, using tools and techniques etc.
- **European Homes & Shops.** Examples of activities are Eurovision, The Euro and Big Ben Says. Learning goals for these topics cover shapes, size and time, combining and taking away, volume, rhythm and lyrics.
- **Asian Inspirations: Explore your feelings.** Activities covered will be such things as Chinese lanterns, Sand art, Tiger Temple etc. Learning goals for these topics will cover using different resources to hand, colour and texture.
- **Exploring Africa with how thatched roofs keep us safe & secure.** Activities covered will include Thatched Roofs, Mask Madness and On Safari. Learning goals achieved will be building and construction, spacial awareness and safety.
- **From a Kangaroo's pouch to a Crocodiles lake we discuss group belonging and making our spaces.** Activities included are Maori Tattoo's, Kangaroo hop and many more. Learning goals covered will be travelling and balancing, me, my life and my community.
- **Traditional Celebrations from the North pole and cold animals are explored.** Activities covered will be things such as Penguin Pick, Whale Watch and Snow Globes. Learning goals covered will include; Sensory responses, developing math ideas, problem solving, measuring and comparing.

Please look through your child's Smartbook to see these topics come to life. If you would like to know more about any of these topics and the learning goals involved, please feel free to speak to your respective class teacher.



Halloween/Fall Festival Photo's

Blossom would like to give a **BIG** thank you to all the parents and children that attended our Halloween/Fall party on Sunday. It was a smashing success and everyone had bundles of spooky fun!

We all managed to raise a **MASSIVE AED 8375** in aid of Médecins Sans Frontières with 100's in attendance.

If you would like to view all the fantastic Halloween pictures, go to the following link

<http://web.mac.com/jonashphotography/iWeb/blossomhalloween>

If you have any great shots from the party, please email them to: registrar@theblossomnursery.com

If you would like to support the charity further, MSF are hosting a charity swimathon around the Burj Al Arab, details below;

Friday 12th November 2010 – 8am
Individual swim - AED 275 minimum donation

Group Swim – AED 275 minimum donation per participant

*Reaistration opens at 6am.



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Homes & Harvest Festival

Our Homes & Harvest Festival will be taking place this year on;



- Wednesday 24th November 2010

This is a great opportunity for you to visit your child's respective classes and view the long term projects that have been planned. Class teachers and children will be giving a presentation on what they have planned, how they hope to accomplish it, why they chose this particular topic and what they hope to achieve from it.

The Chocolate man from Chocolat will also be visiting the nursery to do a special tasting demo for our preschool children.

Look out all parents! You are invited to join your child at Blossom Nursery for a special Homes & Harvest lunch on 24th November at 12pm.

Each class will also prepare a dish in connection to their long term projects.



Upcoming Events

- 14th – 18th Nov : **Academic Half Term**
- 16th – 17th Nov : **Eid Al Adha***
- 22nd November : **Dr. Ashee – Dentist visit**
- 24th November : **Homes & Harvest Festival**
- 25th November : **Report Cards issued**
- 25th November: **Thanksgiving (USA)**
- 29th – 30th Nov : **Parent / Teacher Day**
- 1st December : **UAE National Day***
- 9th December : **Blossom Holiday Concert**

*Islamic holidays to be confirmed/Nursery closed

*All events are also noted in the nursery calendar.

As you can see from our calendar we have lots of exciting celebrations coming up over the next 2 months. With Thanksgiving, Eid Al Adha, Homes & Harvest Festival, Christmas Concert and Christmas itself, there will be lots festivities for all. Watch our Newsletters over this period for information on upcoming events at the Blossom Nursery.

It's a time of family, friends, gifts and good times...

Thinking of a great holiday gift - TicTacToe offers personalized towels that are beautiful and functional. Gaby who makes them is a Blossom parent and you may have seen some of her designs at our Halloween festival. We have attached her flyer so you can be in contact and order direct.

Blossom Photo Days

We are pleased to announce that we will be having a photographer coming to the nursery next week to take school photos!

Photo days will be;

- **7th and 8th November at Blossom Nursery**
- **9th November at Blossom Village**



Please ensure that your child is wearing their Blossom t-shirt or brings it in their bag on picture days.

Also, please note that if your child does not usually attend the nursery on Sunday, Monday (Blossom) or Tuesday (Blossom Village) you will have the opportunity to come along during those days in the afternoon between 1pm and 3pm to have their photograph taken.

Jo Nash Photography will be sending website links to enable each parent to see their child's individual photos and class photos for their child/children. Please be informed that you are not obligated to purchase any of the photos.

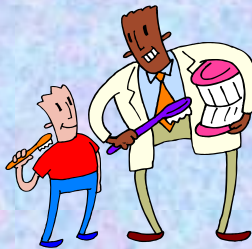
Dental Visit

Dr. Ashee will visit our nursery Monday 22nd November and present a dental education session for the children. Topics covered will be; tips for good oral hygiene, foods that are good/bad for teeth etc.

After these sessions are complete, they will offer free checkups for children whose parents want their teeth to be examined. For this, you will have to register the name/s of your child/children with the nursery, prior to the event and will have to be present at the time of the examination as it will be easier for them to communicate and explain your child's dental condition to you.

Registrations will be done at the office. Please remember to come by and fill out your child's details prior to this visit.

The educational sessions will be between 11-12pm and the checkups will be between 1-2pm.



Parent Teacher Meetings

Our parent teacher meetings will commence on;

- **Monday 29th November – 2pm to 5:45pm**
- **Tuesday 30th November – 2pm to 5:45pm.**

The teachers are currently completing report cards that will go home in Smartbooks/ Diaries on Wednesday 24th and Thursday 25th November.

There will be a sign up sheet on each class door to confirm your attendance and 15 minutes will be allotted to you.

This meeting gives you an opportunity to meet with the class teacher and discuss any issues regarding your child, including report cards.