

# Happy New Year & Welcome Back

We welcome one more 2 year old to join the happy gang! That gives us 10 children in total.



This term we will be concentrating on the health & wellbeing and settling back into routine after the Christmas break

Many of our children demonstrate schematic play in their day to day activities. We would like to support and develop this play and learning.

# What is a Schema?

Schemas are described as patterns of repeated behaviour which allow children to explore and express developing ideas and thoughts through their play and exploration. The repetitive actions of schematic play allow children to construct meaning in what they are doing.



# What are Schemas?

Why do children do things? Have you ever noticed a child paint or draw a lovely picture then cover it completely in scribble or paint? Have you ever given a present to a child and noticed they are more interested in the box than the toy? Schemas can provide an explanation. Schemas are patterns of repeatable behaviour which can often be noticed in young children's play. By recognising and then extending patterns of behaviour and thinking, parents and practitioners can plan an exciting and challenging learning environment to support children's interests and learning.

## Transporting

Children will be fascinated with moving objects and themselves from place to place.



## Trajectory

Children will be interested in how things move and respond.



## Enveloping

Children are learning about space and capacity.



## Transforming

Children are learning about cause and effect.



## Connection

Children are exploring how things join together and separate.



## Rotation

Children show fascination with things that rotate.



## Positioning

Children will be interested in placing objects in lines, patterns or rows.



## Enclosing

Children are exploring concepts that relate to size, shape and pattern.



### A child with a trajectory schema may:

- Always seem to be running around
- Like throwing things
- Like to play with running water
- Like pushing things in a straight line
- Like climbing and jumping off things

### A child with a connecting schema may:

- Tie your chair legs (even your legs) together!
- Love joining train carriages together or taking them apart
- Enjoy all sorts of construction toys
- Once they are drawing, enjoy joining dots or lines together

### This child with an orientation schema may:

- Hang upside down from climbing frames
- Look at the world from different directions by turning themselves upside down
- Turn objects and toys around and look at them

### A child with a containment schema may:

- Like putting things in bags and pots
- Enjoy shape sorting toys
- Climb into boxes
- Love filling up boxes and bags with sand or water

### A child with a transporting schema may:

- Put sand in a bucket and move it to another area;
- Take things from one place to another in prams, trolleys and bags
- Go back and forth bringing you things

### This child with a positioning schema may:

- Stack unlikely objects
- Line up toys e.g. trains, cars, small world people
- Create layers of paint or collage
- Balance objects on the edge of tables or furniture
- Like working with small objects with

Our job is to identify the Schema and provide resources and experiences to extend the learning, following the child's interests.



So next time your toddler empties and scatters everything over and over again remember it's part of their development!

