

Early Learning Newsletter

September 2019

Dear Parents and carers,

Welcome back to nursery! We hope you had a good summer break. We are all full of beans and busy thinking about the coming school year.

We would like to remind new and returning families about pick up and drop off at nursery. We start our morning session at 9.00 and finish at 12.00 or 3.00pm. Please can you try to come on time for both drop off and collection to help your child to get the most out of the session. When parents are coming and going at different times of the day, it does make it quite difficult for some children to settle. They worry that their parent isn't going to come for them or think it's time to go home when it isn't. This is very confusing for young children and makes them quite upset and tearful. If you can work with us on this, it will help the little ones a lot. Thank you.

If you are a member of breakfast club, you can bring your child in any time from 8.00 am on the day's you've booked a place. If you are not a member of breakfast club, we are unable to take your child until 9.00 due to insurance restrictions.

We are commencing our Forest School sessions every Monday for new and existing children as from Monday 16th September. However, we need an extra pair of hands to join Vanessa and Peter for the afternoon sessions. Can you help? Speak with Vanessa or Rebecca in the office if you are able to offer your time on a regular or 'ad hoc' basis. Every little helps! You will need to provide your own waterproof foot-ware and coat. However, waterproof trousers are available for loan. If you feel you would be able to offer some of your time to facilitate children's learning through the outdoors, please complete the slip below and return to me as soon as possible. Remember to provide your child with WATERPROOF clothing for Forest School (showerproof is not sufficient). Forest School is an integral part of our curriculum in nursery and in school, so if your child attends on a Forest School day, they will be expected to go to the woodland regardless of the weather conditions, unless the forest school leader believes it is unsafe.

Please can we make a request that you bring some wellies into nursery for your child if you haven't already done so? Children play outdoors in the mud, water and sand all year round and wellies are essential. If you have a spare pair that you can leave here, all the better.

On the same note, please don't bring your child into nursery in clothes that you don't want them to spoil. We do lots of mucky stuff on a daily basis and your child will get dirty if they're accessing the full range of activities we have on offer.

You will notice that we've been decorated and had a change around in nursery over the holiday. Please feel free to come and have a look at 'explorer's corner' as well as the 'builders yard'; 'light and shadow space' in our new 'Calm Corner' and our 'life skills' area as well as a large 'atelier' (art area) set up by our art specialist Suzy Abbot. We are looking for old electrical items to use in our new 'how does it work' box. They don't need to be working as we will remove the plug and electric cables.

Remember, no water bottles please as they are a source of cross infection in the nursery. Children drink from each other's in error and we don't want that. Also, children need to learn to drink from a cup in order to be ready for school and develop muscles in their mouth and lips to support language development.

Finally, don't forget to nominate staff who Make A Difference to you or your child. We collect nominations at the end of each term to let staff know that you appreciate what they do. Nomination slips are near the red box in the Calm Corner.

In the meantime, please feel free to come and chat with your child's play partner or a member of the senior team if you need any help, advice or just want to know more about what we do and the principles behind our practice. We look forward to working with you and helping your child to grow and learn.

Best wishes

Caroline, Vanessa and the team.