



Newsletter

2-3s Nursery February 2017



Dorking Nursery School and Children's Centre, West Street, Dorking, Surrey, RH4 1BY
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Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you all had a wonderful half term break and were able to enjoy the wintery sun! We are now half way through the academic year which seems to have gone very quickly!

As always - there is lots to catch up on in this months newsletter! One of the most exciting things to share is that we have moved into the 21st Century.

Jack's mum, Kathy has helped us to set up a Facebook account, one for the Nursery and Children's Centre and one for FOND! We will use these platforms alongside the website, newsletters and parentmail to give you updates. If you have not already 'liked' our page, please find us to do so!



Applications for 3-5s

Please join me for coffee and cake on Wednesday 1st March at 9.15am. I will be talking to you about the admission process for the 3-5s Nursery and explaining the different options that you have for your child from September. There is also a new entitlement to early years education for which some of you may be eligible.

It is also possible for you to extend your child's session in 2-3s by adding a lunchclub. This costs £7.95 per day and includes a hot school meal, the nursery session ends at 12.30pm if your child is coming to lunchclub. If you are interested, please speak to Tracey or Sarah in the office.

We also have some availability for your child to extend their sessions across more mornings each week. There are spaces on a Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, so if you would like your child to come for more sessions, please speak to Tracey or Sarah.

Nursery School Campaign

You may have seen on our website, or in the press, lots of reports linked to the future funding of Nursery Schools. The way that we are being funded by the Government in the future is changing, and this could impact on what we can provide for your children.

You can help, please sign the national petition <https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/171052> and ask your friends and family to do the same. I am currently attending a variety of meetings at Westminster to support this. Myself and the Governors have written to our local Councillors and MP to gain their support and backing.

Watch this space...I may be asking you to do the same!

To find out more, look at the news article on the website.



Save Nursery Schools!

This affects
400
maintained
nursery schools
nationwide

The government is planning to change the way it funds nursery education. The outlined funding proposals will not cover basic costs, let alone staffing with qualified teachers. That will leave nursery schools financially nonviable, forcing them to close.

Dads Week

Thank you to the generous dads who came in to read stories and joined in with art and imaginative play. The children loved having some new adults in their Nursery to talk to and the dads seemed to enjoy their time with us too, one said he enjoyed it 'immensely'!

Another said he was amazed at the 'care and attention of the staff and the atmosphere they have created, a room full of happy and contented children speaks volumes! I love how even the Dads follow the rules carefully... for example wearing their aprons when painting (even if they are a snug fit!)

Once again, thank you to those who came in to help out!



Book the baby sitter!

Meet us at

RED

bar & lounge

and get to know each
other a bit better!

Want to meet other parents?

Join FOND on
Thursday, 23rd February at 8pm
(FOND Committee Meeting @ 7pm - all are welcome!)

Fundraising

FOND continue to work hard behind the scenes to raise money for the children. They are meeting on Thursday at Red to plan future events. Join them from 7pm if you want to help out, if not meet them from 8pm to get to know new faces!

Have you joined the Dorking Nursery School and Children's Centre Fundraising page on Facebook - if not, look them up and hit 'like'.

FOND are also looking to update their logo to be 'similar' but different from the Nursey one. If you haven't voted yet, you can on Facebook or in the voting box in the front office.

FOND have also set up an account on **The Giving Machine**. It is a way of generating FREE donations when you shop online from hundreds of major retailers (incl. Amazon, eBay, John Lewis, Tesco, Sainsbury's, Ocado, Next, Argos...). Each time you shop, a donation is made to us. To find out more and set up an account, visit www.thegivingmachine.co.uk.



**The Giving
Machine™**

What's on at the Children's Centre

Don't forget, you can access our adult learning courses in our Children's Centre, either here at West Street or on our Goodwyns Road site.

To find out what is on, visit the website or look out for posters and fliers advertising courses. To book onto any courses, just speak to Becky in the office.

We also run Post-natal and Baby Massage courses throughout the year, if you are a parent with a new baby, please enquire at the office.

This Wednesday 22nd February, Job Centre Plus are holding an information event at St Johns Primary School from 10am. Lots of information will be available about going back to work, training courses, volunteering, confidence building and writing CVs etc.

Crawling to Cruising - Soft Play for the Under 2s. If you have an under 2 and you would like to do this session with them, it takes place each Tuesday from 2pm - 2.45pm and costs £2 per session. You can book weekly to attend at the office.

Parents Evening

Have you wondered what you can do to help your child to learn to read and write? To coincide with National Book Week and World Book Day, come along and join the team on Tuesday 28th February from 7pm. The Nursery will be open from 7-7.30pm for you to see the activities your child accesses during their session. From 7.30pm, Tracey and the team will share examples of what happens at nursery and how you can support your child's early literacy skills.

Parent Meetings

Please return your slip to let us know whether you can attend your Parent Meeting with your Key Worker this term. If you are unable to make the appointment time given, please let us know, if we have enough notice we are able to reschedule this.

Inspirations Dorking

The Grange is a local charity which provides high quality housing and training opportunities for adults with disabilities. They have a shop called Inspirations in Lyons Court in Dorking. The shop has crafts specially designed by people with disabilities. Check out their website or pop in to see what is on offer.



New faces

You may have noticed a couple of new staff faces. Welcome to Kerrie and Donna (who you may already know from the Children's Centre) who have joined the 2-3s team this term. Both team members are supporting the team so we can continue to provide exciting activities for the children.



Woodand Adventures

Despite some damp and chilly weather the Woodland Adventures were a great experience. The children played hide and seek, made mud pie potions, hunted for minibeasts (and found a frog!) and thoroughly enjoyed their outdoor snack time. They overcame challenges such as coping with an unfamiliar routine, being independent in dressing themselves and managing rough and hilly ground.

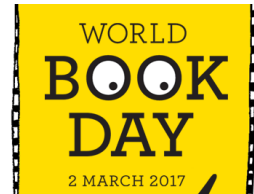


A huge thank you to all the parent helpers who joined us on the Adventures - we couldn't have managed without you.



Book Week - 27th February - 3rd March

It is national book day on Thursday 2nd March and we will be celebrating books for the whole week. We will be talking about our favourite stories and doing lots of role play. Children are very welcome to bring in a book they would like to share with their friends. Please make sure all books are named.



Diary Dates

Please make a note of the following dates for your information:-

Wednesday 22nd February - 10am JCP Meeting at St Johns Primary School

Thursday 23rd February - 7pm FOND Meeting in Red/8pm drinks

Monday 27th February - Book Week

Tuesday 28th February - Helping your child to be a reader and writer Parent Evening from 7pm

Wednesday 1st March - 9.15am - Coffee morning - Admissions to 3-5s

Thursday 2nd March - World Book Day

Friday 31st March - break up for Easter

Tuesday 18th April - Nursery re opens

Best Wishes

Donna Harwood-Duffy

Headteacher (head@dorking.surrey.sch.uk)

