



Newsletter



2-3s Nursery February 2018

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Dear parents and carers

So much has happened at Nursery since the January Newsletter. I always love the spring term, as this is a time when the children return after Christmas settled in their routine and they begin to fly in their learning. With half term approaching next week, it marks the half way point of the year already. We are closed next week here at West Street, however, our Goodwyns Road site will be open on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday mornings for Under 5s Stay and Play between 9.30am and 11.15am if you wanted to drop in. Don't forget both sites are closed on Monday 19th February for staff INSET Day.



Monday 12th February - Friday 16th February -
Half term - Nursery Closed

Monday 19th February - INSET Day - Nursery
Closed

Wednesday 28th February - Sensory Workshop
9.30am - 11.30am

Thursday 1st March - World Book Day*

Thursday 1st March - Coffee morning 9.15am *

Monday 19th March - Friday 23rd March - Mums
and Grandmas Week

Thursday 29th March - last day of term

Friday 30th March - Friday 13th April - Easter
holidays - Nursery Closed

Monday 7th May - May Bank Holiday - Nursery
Closed

Thursday 24th May - Transition Coffee Morning

Monday 28th May - Friday 1st June - Nursery
Closed

Friday 29th June - INSET Day - Nursery Closed

Thursday 19th July - last day of nursery sessions

Friday 20th July - Family Picnic - 1pm - 2.30pm

*new dates added!



Aviva Grant Winners!

We are delighted to be winners for the second year of the Aviva Grant. We will receive a grant of £1,000 towards the development of our outdoor areas in the Nursery and the Children's Centre. This money will be added to our FOND donations. Thanks so much to everyone who voted for us - we received a total of 1,040 votes this year and are planning to aim higher next year and go for more votes and a higher grant!

FOND met a few weeks ago and are going to be sending out their own Newsletter soon. They are keen to seek your views and ideas for fundraising.



Parent Survey

Thank you to those of you who completed our Induction Survey sent out before Christmas. We had a 70% response rate which is excellent, this is what you told us....

- Families agree/strongly agree that the information received prior to starting, open afternoon, open evening, home visit and settling in process were informative and a useful part of the induction process.
- The parent meeting in the autumn term has been well received and one parent has commented on how useful Tapestry is as a tool to see what their child does at nursery.
- A few positive comments:-
 - Just a big thank you! We couldn't be happier with the way x has settled in, grown in confidence and enjoyed his first term.
 - Keep being awesome and inspiring x
 - I have nothing but positive comments to make about Dorking Nursery. They have been absolutely fantastic with my girl
 - X and X were incredible and the rest of the team have been so supportive of our girls. Thank you for taking every step to ensure our children have the best start!

We know you are keen to find out what a typical day at Nursery is like. The answer to that question is; '*there is no typical day!*' However, we will be sharing photos and examples of what the children get up to during their day in forthcoming Newsletters. Don't forget to log into your Tapestry account from time to time, as this will give an insight into what your child is up to also.

Sensory Workshop

Would you like to know more about sensory difficulties? Then come along to an informative and practical session looking at all our senses and how some children experience them differently. It will give you some useful strategies for dealing with sensory difficulties and point you in the direction of helpful resources. Wednesday 28th February - 9.30-11.30am. To book a place, talk to Becky or email her at reception@dorking.surrey.sch.uk

That's Surrey TV

It seems as if our social media presence is working! In case you missed it we appeared again on That's Surrey TV a few weeks ago. They were sharing our great news about our Aviva Grant win! Visit our website to watch

<http://www.dorkingnurserychildrenscentre.org.uk/news/thanks-thats-surrey-tv>



Dads and Grandads Week

Thank you to all the wonderful Dads and Grandads who came into Nursery to spend time with the children.

They certainly enjoyed it. Thanks to those Dads and Grandads too for giving us some feedback - we will certainly take this into account for our Mums and Grandmas Week in March.





Woodland Adventure

The children are enjoying their Woodland Adventures - despite the freezing weather. They play "1, 2, 3 Where are you!", "Hide and Seek", make muddy potions and hunt for mini beasts. We have been really lucky and found some tiny, baby frogs - causing much excitement. The children who have not yet been are guessing what they will see in the Woodland - let's hope they're not right about seeing lions and tigers!



One of the favourite activities is the special snack time with hot chocolate and biscuits!



New team member

Welcome to (another) Sophie who will be joining us for a few mornings a week. Sophie did her Work Experience with us a few years ago, she was such an asset that we could not let her go! She has been part of our Bank Staff team since then and will be spending a couple of mornings a week with us in the 2-3s Nursery. Don't

worry, our 'original' Sophie is still with us - just in case the children start to talk about 'two Sophie's'!

Breakfast and Lunchclub

Now that the children are settled, don't forget about lunch club each day. If you would like your child to attend lunch club, it is from 11.45am - 12.30pm each day and costs £8.50 which includes the price of the hot meal.

If your child is settled at nursery and you needed to drop them off earlier, then why not try our Breakfast Club, open from 8am - 8.45am each morning. £5 per session. Please talk to Tracey if you are interested.



Admissions for 3-5s

The Admissions Panel of the Governing Body has met and we will be writing to parents after half term to let them know what session they have been offered in the 3-5s Nursery. If you think you are eligible for the 30 hour offer, then please talk to Sarah about how you access your 'code' from the HMRC to prove this. We cannot make any offers of a 30 hour place for working families until we have this.

Sessions in 2-3s

Many of you are asking for additional sessions in the 2-3s Nursery now that your child has turned or is turning 3. Please note that spaces are not guaranteed and we are already full on a Monday and Tuesday with limited sessions available on the other days. Please speak to Sarah or Tracey if you are interested in increasing sessions for your child.

Parent Consultations

You will soon be receiving a letter inviting you to meet with your key person again, to share information about your child. It is quite a challenge to timetable staff out of the classroom for these meetings, so please try to keep your allocated appointment and if it is not possible please let us know straight away.

GENERAL REMINDERS

Donations

£5 termly voluntary contribution - please can I remind all families about their £5 termly donation to the nursery fund. This supports the costs of additional resources, experiences such as Woodland and the snacks provided at snack time. If you have not done so yet, we would be very grateful if you could make a donation to us so we can continue to provide the very best for your child.

Tissues - achool! We ask families to donate a box of tissues to us, this means more money in the budget for other things, and helps us keep noses clean!

Attendance - as a school we have to monitor the attendance patterns of the children. This will also be taken into account by the Governing Body when offering priority places in the 3-5s. Our Medical Policy states that children who are generally unwell should not be in the nursery and should not return until they are fit to participate in normal activities; this includes playing outside and with water activities. We do not 'keep children inside', if they are not well enough to join in all the activities then they should not be in school.

Coats, coats, coats - parents may not realise the amount of time their children spend outside when they are with us! They love exploring the environment outside, therefore, it is vital they have a named coat in Nursery each day - even if it looks sunny in the morning. It is also important your child is suitably dressed for the weather inside, with long sleeves and vests. Please make sure you have updated your child's 'change of clothes bag' for the season and don't forget to check this regularly!

From the Nursery

Christmas may be gone, but it is certainly not forgotten! One child was singing 'Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells, Jingle all the way', but then paused and asked an adult "but where do the Jingle Bells go?"

Children's Centre

Don't forget about our Children's Centre leaflet for the spring term. If you have not got one, then please pick one up from the drop boxes outside the front office. As always, there is lots going on at both the West Street site and the Goodwyns Road site ranging from activities for you and your child as well as parenting courses.



Finally, don't forget to follow us on social media, Twitter, Facebook and Instagram



National Support School
designated by
 National College for
Teaching & Leadership

