



THE BCOT NURSERY

August 2019 Newsletter

Dates for your Diary

- August - **Monday 26th - Bank Holiday - Nursery Closed**
September - **Monday 16th - 5pm Parent Partnership Meeting**
October - **Tuesday 22nd - Photographer in Nursery**
December - **Saturday 7th - Christmas Fayre**
December - **Wednesday 18th - Last nursery day before Christmas - Nursery closes 6pm**
December - **Thursday 19th - Christmas Party Day**
January - **Monday 6th - First day back after Christmas - Nursery opens 8am**

Interests and Activities in Nursery

Piglets

The children are enjoying investigating water and balloons. We will extend this interest by providing a variety of activities including ice with containers in water, coloured ice using food colouring, filling balloons with water, pasta and rice and throwing and catching balloons. These activities will encourage the children to explore different media and to show a range of emotions such as pleasure and excitement.

Parent participation - How about playing some throwing and catching games at home with your child, you could use balloons as we are at nursery, or balls, beanbags etc.

Tiggers

The children are interested in water play and the paddling pool at the moment. This interest will be extended to include adding shells to the water play and playing hook a duck. They will also have an opportunity to join in with a variety of art and craft activities looking at textures such as shell and stick rubbings, paintings and collage. These activities will encourage the children to begin to be interested in and describe the texture of things and to

Parent participation - Please bring in holiday or days out photos for your child to share with the rest of Tiggers. Also if you visit a beach or forest etc, please can you collect and bring in shells, sticks etc for the children to use in their water play and art activities, thank you

Christopher Robins

The children have requested for the role-play area to be turned into a hospital, so we will pack away our school uniforms for another year! We will introduce all things medical to the role-play area and will also include a variety of books about looking after people, doctors and hospitals for the children to look through and talk about. These activities will encourage the children to be confident to talk to other children while playing and communicate freely about their home and community.

Parent participation - Talk about any hospital visits or doctors/dentist visits that your child has had and encourage them to share their feelings with you.

Nursery News

Staffing

We have been working hard to employ more staff in readiness for the opening of the new room. I am happy to inform you that Alice has returned to work from her Maternity Leave. Alice will be job sharing with a new member of staff, Cara, we welcome Alice back and Cara to our team.

We have also employed Emma as a full time member of staff (she started as Flexi-Support), Sneha as a part time staff member and Ladda as a flexi-support. These three positions will start the beginning of September.

New Nursery Room Update

The new nursery room is beginning to take shape and is looking good. The room will be called Roos Room and will cater for our youngest children. We are planning for the room to be up and running later this month and attached is a list of the staff that will be working in each room. As building up the number of children in the room will be a gradual process, you will continue to see staff working in different rooms for a while.

Fee Increase

It is that time of year again where we have to look at our fee charges. This year we have had to take into consideration another rise in the minimum wage, with this in mind we have restructured our pay scales to ensure that our staff are being paid fairly. This will also continue to help with the retention of the staff members that we have. We have worked hard over the last three years to build up a strong staffing team and are doing our best to keep the staff members that we have. With these points in mind, there will be a fee increase of approximately 2% implemented from 1st September 2019. The new fees list is attached and a hard copy is available from the office.

Management System

Some of you may be aware that we often have issues with our management system, which controls our registers, invoicing etc. Due to this, we have sourced a different system and are in the process of changing to the new system. I would like to thank you in advance for your patience in this matter while the change takes place and we iron out any issues that may occur.

Tapestry

The nursery aims to upload observations to Tapestry in a timely manner, unfortunately, due to a number of reasons, this has not been possible over the last couple of months. We have been working hard to catch up and thank you for your understanding and patience in this area. For your information, I would like to warn you in advance, that there are always three times a year when the uploading of observations may not be as quick as we would like. This is when the staff write a Record of Development for each child as these, I am sure you will understand, are very time consuming.

Sun Policy

We have had some wonderful weather recently, with some days being far too hot! With this in mind please find attached our Sun Policy which states the procedures that the nursery follow throughout the Summer to ensure the safety of your children. I would like to bring you attention to the following stated in this policy:

- **In extremely hot weather children will not use the outside area between 11am and 3pm**

This is to make you aware that those children who go home from nursery at 1pm will not have had sun cream applied since before 11am, therefore, it is your responsibility to apply sun cream to your child on collection if you feel they require it, thank you.