

CHIDDINGSTONE NURSERY SCHOOL

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6th January 2020

NEWSLETTER - JANUARY 2020

Dear Parents/carers,

We would like to wish you all a very Happy New Year and welcome you back to the new Nursery term. We would like to thank everyone for their support over the last year, especially our Nursery PTA members whose efforts are always greatly appreciated.

ALL ABOUT ME - CHILDREN'S CONSULTATIONS

Following the settling in meetings during October and November, there will be consultation mornings offered during the second full week of February (the week leading up to half term) where parents are invited to meet with their key person to discuss their child's individual development. From this consultation, the key person plans activities for each child that take place during the following term. The parental contribution forms an integral part in planning for your child. Please consider the following in advance of your meeting:

- Things about your child's home life you would like to share with the key person.
- Questions you would like to ask the key person.
- What your child particularly enjoys.
- Anything your child does not particularly like.
- As parent/carer please do make observations and/or suggestions.

Appointment sheets will be available in the entrance hall shortly. You are, as always, also most welcome to speak to your key person at any other time.

Tapestry online observations will be limited prior to the consultations when staff will be evaluating and completing the consultation All About Me forms during their tapestry uploading time, pictures, observations and comments will resume as normal in Term 4.

GRANDPARENTS WEEK

For the week of 27th - 31st January 2020, our sound is 'g' and we would like to offer the children a chance to invite their grandparents into the Nursery and share in our games, garden and grounds. The invitation is extended for the first hour of the morning (9-10am) or last hour of the morning (11-12am) or afternoon (2-3pm). Please let us know who may like to join and the times slot most convenient.

BAG2SCHOOL CLOTHING COLLECTION

We have organised a Bag2School fund raising activity to raise funds for the Nursery. Bags which will be distributed in your child's tray for you to fill with good condition unwanted textiles but any bags are fine to use. Bag2School will be collecting our bags between 9.00 am and 1.00 pm on Tuesday, 11th February 2020, so we would be grateful if you could return any filled bags to the Nursery before 3.00 pm on Monday, 10th February. Alternatively, if you wish to return your filled bag on the 7th,

we can store them in the office so we do not miss the morning collection. A certain percentage of the final weighed amount will be paid to the Nursery. Please help us fill as many bags as possible.

BOOK AND GAME LIBRARY

The book library will be available from Monday 13th January 2020. There are still many outstanding books to be returned. We would like to hear from any parent/carers volunteers who could come into the Nursery to run the library for the first 15 minutes between 9:00am - 9:15am on a regular basis. If this is something you feel you would be able to continue to do or are able to take part in, please speak to a member of staff. Thank you.

SESSION ALLOCATION FOR SUMMER TERM

A new session allocation form will be situated in the entrance hall to give you the opportunity to increase your child's sessions. To confirm Monday and Tuesday morning sessions continue to be chargeable sessions, the Monday morning session includes walking over to Chiddingstone School to join their Key Stage 1 assemblies and snack with the reception class weather permitting.

If you are interested in taking up any of these available sessions, please add them to the form displayed in the entrance hall or speak to a member of staff.

Sessions Available

Monday morning = 5 places

Monday afternoon = 5 places

Tuesday morning = 6 places

Tuesday afternoon = 2 places

Wednesday afternoon = 1 places

Friday morning from half term = 2 place

The Wednesday, Thursday morning sessions are full. The list will close on 7th February when any remaining places will be offered to children on our waiting list.

ADMISSIONS TO SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 2020

If your child is due to start school in September 2020 you need to make an online application for a place at www.kent.gov.uk/ola and a booklet explaining the admissions procedure is also available online. The closing date for applications is **Wednesday, 15th January 2020**.

QUESTIONNAIRE

During the Spring Term 3 we circulate our annual questionnaire giving you the opportunity to feedback your opinion and contribute ideas that could be developed to benefit the Nursery Improvement Plan. The questionnaire is completely anonymous, and we value your responses as this shapes our provision and has produced some very positive changes in the past.

NURSERY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE NEWSLETTER

The first 2020 Nursery Management Newsletter will be circulated in the near future, to keep all parents informed of future plans and updates.

BAD WEATHER ARRANGEMENTS

May we remind you of the ways in which we communicate with parents in the event the Nursery closes due to severe weather, for example, heavy snow. The Nursery will not be open:-

- If there are insufficient staff to supervise the children safely.

- If the temperature in the building is not reasonable enough to work in.
- The toilets and/or water supply are affected.

If we have to close, we publicise this in several ways:

- An emergency news item on the Nursery website;
- Parentmail - texts and e-mails sent to all parents;
- Kent Closures website (www.kentclosures.co.uk);
- KMFM, BBC Radio Kent or Heart FM will also publicise closures.

On such occasions, please only telephone the Nursery Mobile in an emergency - 07818929117. Thank you.

Ways you can help:-

- Children will need to have warm coats, hats and gloves as well as wellington boots (or similar) so that they can play outside - as we like to make the most of the snow.
- Please make sure that if you are working some distance from the Nursery, you have a back-up plan in place should we require to close early.
- Please access www.kent.gov.uk/winter for more information about gritting routes etc. so that you can plan.

REMINDERS

As we are now in the Winter months, **PLEASE could you ensure your child attends Nursery with a named warm coat, wellington boots and a name in their shoes.** We are required to offer the children outside play and will be encouraging this, regardless of the weather,

Show and Tell

This is linked with the numbers, letter of the week or something of interest to the children - no more than one item please to be brought in with Eddy the Teddy or Laika the dog

Telephone Numbers

Please can you inform the nursery immediately if you change your phone or mobile number.

Spare Clothes

It is very important that you please provide your child with **at least one complete set** of spare clothes including socks which is **clearly named**. There are several changes of clothes required on a daily/weekly basis and some children prefer home clothes to nursery spares.

Snack Time

Please would you provide a piece of fruit or vegetable every morning your child attends to provide a healthy addition to the toast and crackers provided by the Nursery. We require parents to inform staff of any allergies the children may have so these can be recorded and monitored at times of food preparation. If any parent would like further information, please speak to a member of staff.

Please remind children that morning snacks are shared but packed lunches are not!

LUNCHES

Please could we remind you that peanut butter sandwiches or food items containing nuts or sesame seeds should not be included in packed lunches due to allergies.

SICKNESS AND STAFFING

All prescribed medication **must** be handed to a member of staff for safe storage in

the first aid cupboard. The medication must be named and include instructions for dosage on the packaging. A signed permission for medicines to be administered must also be completed. **The nursery is not permitted to administer non-prescribed medicines.** If your child needs Calpol or is feeling unwell in any way, please keep them at home until they are well enough to return and manage a full Nursery session. Please make sure all emergency contact numbers are kept up to date.

In the event of sickness and/or diarrhoea, a period of at least 48 hours clear from the last episode is **essential** before returning to Nursery.

Staffing ratios are paramount to all the children attending and to enable the Nursery to remain open, so it is vital staff are able to avoid infections wherever possible.

Please inform a member of staff if your child has received a bump or bruise prior to arrival this needs to be recorded in the appropriate book. Thank you for your co-operation.

If you need to speak to a member of staff you are welcome to see them once most of the children are in at the beginning of the morning or have left after the session.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Mrs McCoy
Nursery Leader
