



## Newsletter August 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, I would like to say a big **congratulations** to all of our **pre-school** children who carried out their **Graduation** ceremony on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July. The staff in Safari worked exceptionally hard along with the children to put on a ceremony for the parents and I am pleased **it went so well**. We would like to wish all of the **children leaving** to go to school all **the best of luck** and hope you all come back and visit us in the future!

Please see attached our new **Spring/Summer Menu**. This menu will be trialled and edited where needed, however we will as always continue to encourage ALL children to try the meals provided before offering them alternatives. We feel it is **fundamental to children's development** and progress to ensure they are having **a substantial, healthy, diet** whilst at nursery and are therefore always reviewing the food we provide. Please see the copy of the new menu attached to this e-mail or alternatively there are **hard copies** for you to take on the displays **in the corridor**.

Unfortunately I have to inform you that **Michaela Cole** will no longer be working full time at Bright Comets due to a change in her family circumstances. Michaela is serving a notice period but as she has a term time contract this meant Michaela's last day was actually Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July. Michaela will be returning to work at Bright Comets on a **part time basis** but will not be based in a room or have key children.

In addition to this, Paula Willson who works in Safari will also be reducing her hours and working with us part time from the 27<sup>th</sup> August however she will continue to have a few key children.

I would like to wish **Amy Cadwell** (Baby Room Leader) a huge **congratulations** on the completion of her **Level 3** qualification. Amy has worked really hard to achieve this qualification, so well done!

We would like to kindly ask parents if they have any old **handbags** or **unwanted mobile phones, or keys** if they could **donate** them to the nursery. We have recently carried out an audit on our role play areas and would like to replace some of ours as they are so well used by the children.

With the holiday season upon us **we kindly ask that if your child will be absent from the nursery that you let us know their holiday dates beforehand**. This enables us to allocate the correct number of staff to children and also mark in their learning journals when they are absent. We would also be grateful if parents could complete a **"Holiday Observation sheet"** (Please see copies in the reception). These can then be placed into the children's learning journal

## **Dates for your Diaries**

### **People Who Help Us Week - W/C 13th August**

We will be inviting some special people into the nursery such as police, firemen, vets and dentists throughout the week to carry out discussions with the older children as well as, showing the children their vehicles. The children will participate in some art and craft activities, ending the week by having a party tea whereby all children are asked to come to nursery dressed as their favourite superhero or the profession they want to be when they grow up.

Although we are still in the process of arranging these I can confirm the fire service will visit (as long as they are not called to a job) on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> at 2:30pm). I will confirm all other dates via a separate e-mail next week.

### **Eid Celebration – Wednesday 22nd August**

We will be celebrating the Muslim festival of Eid by taking part in various arts, crafts and messy activities such as; making celebration cards, creating picture of the stars and the moon, dressing up in Sari's, listening to music and in the afternoon will have a feast exploring different Islamic foods.

### **Bright Comets Bake off – Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> August**

Farmyard, Seaside & Meadow – 10:00am – 11:00am  
Arctic & Safari – 2:00pm – 3:00pm

All parents are invited to come to the nursery to make cakes, bread and other savoury goods with your child. This will enable you to spend some time with your child at the nursery and support their understanding of healthy foods and how food is made. If you want to attend the bake off please let us know beforehand.

### **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> September – Road Safety Day**

The children are encouraged to bring their bike, scooter or walker to nursery with them for the day along with their helmets. They will take part in various activities in the garden to learn the importance of road safety and will be using the road equipment to role play some scenarios such as, how to use a zebra crossing and other ways of crossing roads. The children will also make various arts and crafts to use in their role play such as traffic lights which they can then take home and share with their families.

**PLEASE BE SURE TO REGULARLY CHECK OUR EVENTS BOARD FOR  
REMINDERS**



**Did you know?**

Please follow the link below for some information and tips on keeping safe in the current heat wave we are having.

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/heatwave-how-to-cope-in-hot-weather/>

Please follow the link below for some useful tips on supporting children who can appear to be “Fussy Eaters”

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/pregnancy-and-baby/fussy-eaters/>

**A Note from Each Room**

**Farmyard:**

This month in Farmyard we will be celebrating the festival of EID by exploring lots of colours and textures. We will be encouraging the children to explore different media, including scented, coloured dough and jelly play. We shall also be making cards with the babies to take home. Our book of the month is “Elmer’s Day”. This will give us the opportunity to further explore into a variety of colours, using the child’s different senses and some basic animal sounds.

Our Song of the month will be: “Animal Fair”

**Seaside:**

This month in Seaside we will be exploring patterns, as part of this we will be decorating Eid cards and looking at different patterns. We will also be looking at various animals with different patterns on such as, spots and stripes.

In addition to this we will be exploring movement and sounds, looking at how things move, rolling balls and cars, making sounds using ICT toys and instruments and looking at vehicles that make sounds as part of our emergency services week.

Our song of the month will be: “Animal Fair”

### **Meadow:**

This month in Meadow we will be starting a new book called “Hooray for Fish”. We will be getting a pet gold fish for the children to look after and see how fish move and relate this to the book. We will be looking at the colours of the fish, the patterns they have on them and the sizes to develop the children’s early maths skills. We will also be looking at opposites big/small, heavy/light, hot, cold, wet/dry throughout our activities this month.

Our song of the month is; “Ring a ring o’ roses” which will support the children to be part of a group and help them to understand some simple prepositions.

*Parent Link* – Could you visit an aquarium or even a pet shop and look at the variety of fish, identifying colours and patterns on them.

**Arctic:** This month in Arctic we will be starting a new book called “The Princess and the Wizard”

We are also going to be looking at the weather and why it’s important to stay safe in the sun including the protection we have to use such as, sun cream, hats, drinking water. We are also going to be looking at different occupations and the people who help us paying particular details to how the children can help each other.

Our song of the month is: “There was a Princess”

*Parent Link* – Can you go for a walk and see if you can find any animals/creatures like in our story. Can you also bring in/e-mail some family photos for “All about me books” for us to use at nursery as a talking point.

**Safari:** This month we will continue to look at supporting the children to write their first and last names and practice counting beyond 10 independently.

We will also be talking about being kind to one another and discussing how we can help the children who are settling from Arctic, recapping our golden rules for the Safari room.

We will also be looking at carrying out some science experiments using magnets, putting objects in water and making snakes with magnetic objects. We will also be looking at the weather we have been having and will be making a weather station.

*Parent Link:* Could all new children who will be coming to Safari in September provide us with some family photos for “All about me books” for us to use at nursery as a talking point and to help them with their settling in. Can you also practice counting with the children, this can include counting by rote or counting objects.

### **Gentle Reminders**

In line with the **General Data Protection Regulations** all parents should have received **new permission forms to sign**. I kindly ask that you **fill these out and return them to us as soon as possible** – If you require an additional form please let Janine or Lorraine know.

We are pleased that we now have some **warm weather** however, whilst it is nice and enables us to be outside a lot more we fully understand the dangers the heat can have on the children. Therefore, we ask ALL parents to ensure that you provide a sunhat for your child to use whilst at nursery and ensure they have **appropriate clothing** to change into (short sleeved tops, vests, shorts) We have noticed that the children in the pre-school rooms have been drinking much better when given water bottles therefore, we would kindly ask if parents in Arctic and Safari can provide a small water bottle for your child to be kept at nursery.

All children between the ages of 2 – 3 years old must have a two year development check carried out by the nursery and also by their Health Visitor. This is an opportunity for us to **review the children's progress and write a summary of their development** in accordance to the three prime areas of development. Where possible, the progress check and the Healthy Child Programme health and development review at age two (when health visitors gather information on a child's health and development) should inform each other and support integrated working, allowing **both health and educational professionals together to identify the child's strengths and weaknesses**. Therefore it is important that parents **inform their child's keyworker when the child will be having his/her two year review with the Health visitor** to allow us enough time to complete our two year check and for you to take it along with you.

**Please don't forget to check your parents' information boards, Facebook and our website for further information and reminders.**

As always, if you have any questions, queries or concerns, please do NOT hesitate to contact us.

Kind Regards  
Janine and Team.