



Newsletter October 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

You should have all received the Christmas gift order forms or picked one up from the reception. Please remember if you wish to purchase any of the **Christmas gifts, order forms must be returned by Friday 12th October.**

I am pleased to inform parents that we are now working closely with the **Hatfield Community Support Team, the Estate Management Company and Hatfield council** on **improving the conditions of the outside area** at the front of the nursery. We have addressed several issues that we hope to see improved such as, the amount of rubbish outside particularly on a Monday morning and the upkeep of the green areas. All agencies involved are very much on board to help us improve the outside environment and we were asked that if any parents have **any complaints** to let us know so we can forward them onto them.

It is important that all parents are aware that we are currently **very busy in all age groups** and now have in place several **waiting lists** up to April 2019 for children whom require a place. Because of this in recent weeks we have been finding it difficult to accommodate some requests for **extra sessions** and to **increase sessions** in booking patterns therefore, please ensure if you require any additional days or want to increase the amount of days your child attends that you **give us as much notice as possible** in order for us to be able to accommodate any requests.

We would like to say a special **thank you** to all **Grandparents** who came to our Grandparent's morning yesterday, this is something we will definitely do again in the future as was lovely to meet them all and **the children loved it.**

Blue Parking Permits are now invalid. All parents must use the orange parking permits provided, if you need one of these please speak to Janine or Lorraine who will give you one.

Dates for your Diaries

Monday 15th October – Nursery Photo Day

Caamkids will be returning to the nursery again this year to take professional photos of the children for you to purchase in time for Christmas.

If you wish to provide your child with a particular outfit for their photo please ensure you let the staff know within the room and label the outfit clearly with your child's name.

If your child does not attend the nursery but you would like to bring them in to have their photo taken please let Janine know and she will provide you with a time slot.

Thursday 18th October – Reptile Day

The nursery will be holding a reptile day, each age group will get a visit from the zoo lab, who will be bringing along some reptiles for the children to see and if they are brave enough to hold. Safari and Arctic will also have a workshop about the animals to learn some information about the reptiles. All children will be encouraged to make and decorate different types of reptiles, learn about life cycles and will also make a reptile shaped biscuit later in the day.

Monday 29th October – Nursery Training Day

The nursery will be closed for a staff training day therefore, alternative childcare will need to be arranged. Please note that you are NOT charged for this day and this has already been taken into account when calculating your fees.

Wednesday 31st October – Nursery Halloween event and tea party

Parents are asked to bring their children to nursery in **fancy dress** to participate in various activities throughout the day such as, carving and exploring the inside mush of pumpkins, making and exploring green gloop, making ghost meringues and creating magic potions. Along with, carrying out various arts and crafts such as, making Halloween cards, sponge painting and printing, making spider mobiles, pumpkin faces, decorating masks and balloon ghosts. In the afternoon the children will have a party tea and play some party games. If your child does not attend this day but you would like them to come along in the afternoon please feel free to bring them along however, you will be required to stay with them and supervise them at all times. Please let Janine or Lorraine know if you will be bringing them in order for us to ensure everyone is catered for.

Friday 16th November – Children in Need

Children and staff are encouraged to wear their spots for Pudsey Bears Children in Need Day! Throughout the morning children will bake cakes and biscuits that will go on sale for parents to purchase in the afternoon. The children will also go on a squirrel treasure hunt in the garden and will all get a Pudsey sticker when they find a cut out squirrel. All donations are gratefully received and ALL will go to Children In Need.

Wednesday 7th November – Diwali

The children will be celebrating the Diwali festival by making Diwali cards and lanterns and some of the older children will be creating some tea light holders to take home. The children will also be exploring lentils and pulses through play to create pictures.

Saturday 1st December 10:00-1:00pm– Christmas Fete

The Christmas fete is a lovely event for all the family, there will be various stalls and activities to take part in including, finding the golden carrot, face painting and a bottle tombola (for the adults) as well as an exciting Santa's grotto and of course a raffle.

Tickets for our Christmas fete will go on sale on the 29th October so remember to please **save the date**, any money raised from this event will be put towards new resources for the children.

PLEASE BE SURE TO REGULARLY CHECK OUR EVENTS BOARD FOR REMINDERS



Did you know?

Please click on the link below for information about FREE Healthy start vitamins

<https://fsc-hertsc.tfemagazine.co.uk/2-october-2018/urgent/changes-to-the-distribution-of-healthy-start-vitamins-for-family-centres>

Follow this link for some information and tips on how to Support children with English as an additional language

<http://licensing.ican.org.uk/sites/licensing.ican.org.uk/files/pdfs/English-as-an-additional-language.pdf>

A Note from Each Room

Farmyard:

This month we will be exploring the season of autumn through sensory based messy play. We will be doing some vegetable/fruit printing and will look at the marks they make with these. We will also allow the children to further explore these items through taste and smell.

We shall be collecting items on our walks to the duck pond, such as leaves and conkers to decorate for wall displays so please make sure you keep a look out for what the children create when you come in the room.

For Halloween we would love to see the children dressed up in spooky outfits and we will also be exploring the insides of a pumpkin and other messy play!

Seaside:

This month the children will be having a visitor into seaside, Lucy will be bringing in her pet tortoise for the children to see how we take care of animals. This will also link into our reptile day where we will see the reptiles and talk to the children about them.

The children will be joining in messy activities for Halloween i.e. jelly and pumpkin play. If the children wish to make Halloween decorations, there will be a variety of activities around this such as, handprint spiders, puffy ghosts etc.

Song of the month: Incey wincey spider

Meadow:

This month in Meadow the book of the month is going to be Room on the Broom to link in with our discussions about Halloween and the song of the month will be, Incey wincey spider.

We are going to be creating some spiders, witches and pumpkins for Halloween to display and decorate our room as well as encouraging the children to explore the inside of pumpkins and even making pumpkin pie!

We will also be looking at and talking about different animals and reptiles and are looking forward to seeing some reptiles and maybe even holding some!

Parent link: Can you go and visit the pick your own pumpkin patch and send us some photos to use as a talking point?

Arctic:

This month our book of the month will be Charlie Cooks favourite book and all of our activities will be based around the characters feature in the story for example, Pirates, Goldilocks, a Knight, A dragon etc.

Our song of the month will be “5 little speckled frogs” which will support our learning about animals and reptiles. During reptile week we will be talking about the life cycles, and also their skins encouraging the children to think of words to describe them such as, slimey, scaly, slithery, shiny, hard, cold, wet.

We are also focusing on tidy up time this month and how to look after our new toys and sharing them.

Parent link: Can you go and visit the pick your own pumpkin patch and send us some photos to use as a talking point?

Safari:

This month we will be looking at families and encouraging the children to look at the similarities and difference between them. This will involve looking at photos of each other’s families, drawing pictures and also doing some self-portraits to look at our similarities and differences.

We are now also focusing on identifying numbers 1-10 in a variety of ways such as on a dice, in written form and by counting objects.

Lastly, the children will be looking at the season autumn and exploring a various range of activities around this. I.e. Leaf printing, making autumn trees and discussing about the change of weather, this will also include talking about what animals hibernate throughout autumn.

Book of the month: There is a house inside my mummy

Song of the month: Baby Shark

Parent Link: Can you look at identifying numbers from 1 to 10. You can do this by going on number hunts and looking for numbers in the environment.

Gentle Reminders

Unfortunately it is now time we start preparing for the **cold weather** therefore, we ask ALL parents to ensure that you provide a warm coat/waterproof jacket for your child to use whilst at nursery along with some Wellington boots to ensure that they can get the benefits of being outdoors in all weathers. We also kindly ask that they have **appropriate clothing** to change into (long sleeved tops, vests and jumpers)

I would like to respectfully remind you that the nursery closes promptly at **6.00pm** and all children, parents, careers and visitors should have vacated the premises by this time. Should you require verbal feedback on your child’s day, please ensure that you arrive in plenty of time to allow you to leave before 6.00pm. **As you are aware, charges will be levied for delays after 6.00pm and we really do not want to be in a position to charge this.**

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, Lorraine and Team.