



Newsletter April 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Based on some feedback gained from our Parent Questionnaires sent out in January we are excited to be able to offer a parent workshop. I have been working closely with “EPIC, Early Years” and we have tailored a course specifically to incorporate topics I feel some parents may find useful. Whilst this is open to parents with children of all ages I do feel it may benefit those of you whose children are aged 2 ½ years and upwards.

The workshop will take place at the nursery on Wednesday 8th May at 6:15pm and will finish around 7:45pm. The workshop will include the following;

- The importance of play
- What happens in a "normal day" at nursery
- An overview of the EYFS and how we teach in early years
- Expectations at the beginning of Reception and tips and strategies on supporting learning at home

The cost of this training course will be £12.50 per person and light refreshments will be available. In order to book on to the course we will require the full amount paid in cash. Places will be given out on a first come, first serve basis.

We would like to thank all Mummies/Nannies who came in for our Mother’s Day celebration, we hope you all enjoyed it and had a wonderful, well deserved Mother’s Day! Photos taken from the event will be placed into our events books shortly so please keep an eye out for these.

Staff Changes

We are sad to announce that unfortunately Sarah Webb has decided to leave Bright Comets Day Nursery. Sarah has worked at Bright Comets for 3 years and has been a valued member of the team however, she has decided to pursue a career in the police force. Sarah’s last day will be Friday 31st May, we would like to wish her the best of luck with her future career.

I am pleased to announce that Brooke Gurley, who has worked as a part time member of staff at Bright Comets for the last 18 months will be taking over from Sarah’s role in Arctic to work alongside Amy. Brooke has her Level 3 in Childcare and Education and is very familiar with the nursery practices and expectations.

We have also made a decision jointly with Becci who currently works in Farmyard that she will be moving into Meadow Room from Tuesday 7th May. Becci has worked with under twos for the past 2 years at Bright Comets and it is good for all staff CPD to work with a variety of age groups. If Becci is your child’s key worker please speak to Lisa (Room Leader) who will inform you of the new key person.

We will be holding an Easter Raffle at the nursery, tickets will go on sale on Monday 15th April and the raffle will take place at 2pm on Wednesday 17th April.

Tickets are £1.50 a ticket or £5 a strip, all money raised will go towards purchasing some new tablets for the rooms as well as some new garden resources.

Prizes to be won: An Easter Hamper, Paradise Wildlife Park Tickets, Willows Farm tickets, of course a variety of Easter Eggs, A £15 body shop voucher and much more!

We would like to respectfully remind parents that the use of mobile phones and other personal technology is strictly prohibited within the nursery. If you wish to make a phone call please do so in our reception area ONLY.

If you have not done so already we have some review cards on the front desk and would like to kindly ask if you could take a card, write a review and sent it off to Day Nurseries.co.uk.

Dates for your Diaries for 2019

Week commencing 15th April – Easter Fun Week

Throughout the week the children will be making various Easter crafts such as cards, bonnets and baskets. We will also be having an Easter Raffle displayed in the reception for parents to purchase tickets which will be drawn on Wednesday the 17th.

On Thursday the children will also take part in an Easter Egg Hunt in the garden where they will be encouraged to follow clues and arrows to find some chocolate prizes and other gifts along the way.

Tuesday 23rd April – St Georges Day

The children are encouraged to come dressed in red and white and make some English flags to take home. The older children will learn all about St George and why we celebrate it.

Monday 29th April – Parents Evening

We will be holding parents evening for you to attend and have a ten minute consultation with your child's key worker. This is a time for you to look at the learning journal and ask any questions you may have about their development and time spent at nursery. Time slots are now available to book!

PLEASE BE SURE TO REGULARLY CHECK OUR EVENTS BOARD FOR REMINDERS AS WELL AS OUR EVENTS LIST ON OUR WEBSITE



Did you know?

Please see the link below some helpful tips with new born babies.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/pregnancy-and-baby/being-a-parent/>

Do you fancy getting creative at home? There are lots of skills that are developed when using playdough, please see the link below for a simple playdough recipe.

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/parents/play-dough-recipe>

A Note from Each Room

Farmyard:

Book of the month: Oh Dear

Song of the month: Animal Faye

In Farmyard this month we will be looking at animals. We are going to be making animal foot prints to display on our wall. We will be encourage Farmyard in listening to new words and making sounds of each animal. Exploring with the small world and using the farm animals within this.

Farmyard will be looking for mini beasts when they are having time in the garden and having spring trips to see the fish and ducks.

Music time farmyard will be using their whole bodies in to pretending to be different animals.

Parent's link: If you visit a pond or lake please take photos and tell us your experience.

Seaside:

Book of the month – Oh Dear

Song of the month – Sleeping Bunny

Seaside will be looking at the season Spring and what happens in spring. The children will be exploring farm animal's i.e. the birth of lambs/chicks and ducklings. Seaside will be making chick and lamb pictures using a variety of materials. The Easter week we will be making Easter cards to take home and shredded wheats bird nest.

Parent's link: If you visit a farm please forward pictures to the setting and tell us your experience.

Meadow:

Book of the month – The Very Hungry Caterpillar

Song of the month – Wheels on the bus

This month in Meadow we will be getting caterpillars and observing them turning into beautiful butterflies. We will be discussing what the life cycle is all about with the children.

This month we will be exploring shapes and patterns, identifying shapes and creating patterns through our play.

We will also be doing planting within our garden area, to encourage mini-beasts and small wildlife to join in our outdoor area. Adding potatoes, herbs, carrots and colourful plants for the children to take care of.

Parents link: to visit a butterfly house.

Arctic:

As the children enjoyed growing the grass so much we will be doing more planting/growing, and looking at the different ways things grow (strawberries on a plant, carrots in the ground, and potatoes in growing bags)

The children have also shown lots of interest in baking and preparing food, so we will use this interest to begin exploring healthy & unhealthy foods and the effects they have on our bodies.

We will also be looking at the effect that exercising and physical activities have on our bodies.

We will explore how we feel before exercising and if we feel any different afterwards and explore the reasons why this maybe.

Parent's link: Discussions in the supermarket about good/bad foods.

Safari:

Book of the month: Dear Zoo

Song of the month: Old McDonald had a zoo

This month we will be looking at weight using a variety of different objects and scales. (Heavy & light)

We will be baking once a week to promote the children's independence skills and will also encourage them to look at changes when something is combined to create a different effect. We will also look at quantities and numbers. The children will be making animal biscuits from our Dear Zoo book, and we will make hot cross buns and chocolate nest for Easter week for the children to take home.

We will be looking at our numbers 1-10 and 10-20 through various activities and looking at shapes, complex shapes and 2D & 3D shapes.

We will continue to get ourselves dressed and brush our own teeth independently. The children will be continuing also our Makaton signing of the week.

Parents link: Discussing about counting with numbers and quantities

Gentle Reminders

Please don't forget to follow our [Facebook](#) page for regular updates and news. We would also be very grateful to parents if you could leave us a review.

Unfortunately the **cold weather** is here and looks as though it may stay for a while! Therefore, we would like to ask ALL parents to ensure that you provide a warm coat/waterproof jacket, hat, scarves and gloves 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).

We 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.