



Newsletter September 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to wish all of our leavers the **best of luck** for their new adventures **at school!** We are confident you will all do well and will go on to **achieve great things.**

This being said we are excited to **welcome** lots of **new children to Bright Comets**, we are still very busy despite lots of children leaving for school and would like to make parents aware that we now have a **waiting list for our baby room and Seaside up until December.**

This week marks **Shirley McDowall's tenth year of service at Bright Comets Day Nursery.** Shirley has been a very **dedicated and loyal member of staff**, she has had a huge impact on many children who have attended the nursery and shows great nurture with the children today. Please join me in **congratulating Shirley for her tenth year and thanking her for her continued hard work and support.**

As we are now approaching the **autumn season**, we would like to remind parents to bring in **waterproof clothing.** As you are aware all of the children who attend have the opportunity to experience indoor environments as well as the outdoor area in all seasons so they do require **wellington boots and jackets.**

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. This also stands for children who attend half sessions and are collected after 1pm or those bought in before 1pm.

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 have to charge this.

Apologies for mentioning Christmas already but in order to get organised we do have to start to plan our **Christmas fete** already. If any **parents work for any companies** who can donate us **any raffle prizes** please let Lorraine know, **anything received is greatly appreciated.** Please also ensure you save the date for the Christmas fete, **Saturday 7th December**, it is a great event for all the family and we thank you in advance for your support with this.

Dates for your Diaries for 2019

Tuesday 10th September – Pirate day

Children are encouraged to come to nursery dressed as pirates and will take part in activities such as, treasure hunts, making maps, making telescopes and exploring pirate themed tuff trays.

Monday 23rd September – Harvest Festival

We will be going to the Hatfield care home to perform to Harvest Festival themed songs and will take along a food parcel to them. We will begin our Harvest Festival collection on, Monday 9th September in the corridor, if you would like to make a donation of tinned or packet foods please place them on the display. Thank you.

Wednesday 2nd October – Grandparents Day 9:30-10:30am or 2:15-3:15pm

An exciting chance for all of the children's Grandparents to come to nursery for a one hour session to play alongside the children and take part in some fun activities including, reading stories, drawing pictures, playing in the sand and doing puzzles. If your child's grandparent/s wish to attend please inform Janine or Lorraine.

Thursday 17th October – Animal day

The children will be learning about a variety of different animals including, reptiles, mini beasts, farm and zoo animals. We will be carrying out a variety of fun, educational activities for them to take part in and will also have a visit from the "Zoo Lab" which provides the children an opportunity to meet and hold some animals.

Wednesday 30th 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.

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



Did you know?

Parents can call and receive a free service from the fire brigade –who will come in and check your smoke alarms -

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/Fire-and-rescue/Request-a-visit-from-the-fire-service/Request-a-visit-to-your-home-or-school.aspx>

Follow the link below for some great ideas to do coming into the autumn months:

<https://www.earlyyearscentre.com/eyc/enabling-environment/benefits-autumn-children/>

A Note from Each Room

Farmyard: This month the room will look at getting to know our families and children, by making “All about me books”. We would like to ask all of our parents to please forward us some photos of their child’s family to use in these books. As we are welcoming lots of new babies to our room we will be doing lots of key worker quiet time including, singing songs and reading stories to build bonds and get to know them.

For some of our older children who are now beginning to take some first steps we will be doing lots of physical exercise and encouraging them to walk confidently!

Seaside: This month in seaside the children will start going on Autumn walks and collecting pine cones, conkers and leaves to use to make autumn pictures and paintings. We will be exploring the different textures and introducing some basic colour names to them.

Could we please ask our families to send in photos of their child’s families, so we can make “All about me” books, this is a great opportunity to communicate to the children about who is special to them.

Meadow: This month we will be working on developing our fine motor skills-holding a pen/pencil and correctly holding and using child scissors in a safe manner. We will support the children fine motor development by doing lots of malleable play, threading and using different size resources for them to make marks.

We will also be encouraging the children to count from 1-5, using loose parts or sorting objects as well as number rhymes. The room will also be identifying familiar words or phrases from stories which we will begin with the Gruffalo for our book of the month and our song of the month which will be Peter Rabbit.

Arctic: This month we are going to be learning about Harvest Festival and will learn some new songs about growing vegetables and scarecrows which we hope to perform at the care home. We will also be doing the topic “All about me” giving us lots of opportunities to learn all about our “new” friends who are joining throughout September. For our newest children we would kindly like to ask parent to e-mail some family photos for us to print so that they can design their own family books.

Safari: This month in Safari I (Kirsty) will be joining the team! As the children have moved up from Arctic we will be doing lots of activities based around “All About Me” allowing us to get to know them, their interests and their likes and the children will also get to know their new key worker.

We will be doing our self-registration encouraging the children to recognise their name and introducing the basic phonic sound for the first initial of their name. We will also be focusing a lot on their self-help and independence skills including, the snack station, brushing teeth and putting on their own jackets/coats etc.

Could you please provide us with some photos of the family if they do not already have a family photo book.

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.

Under no circumstance should a parent let anyone into the building or leave the door open for them. Simply [ask them to enter the codes themselves](#) or wait outside whilst you inform a

member of staff. Parents allowing people into the building is a breach in our safeguarding, security and health and safety policy and therefore, we ask for your full co-operation with this. Whilst we appreciate this can put parents in an awkward situation **the safety and well-being of the children is of paramount importance to us** and we cannot stress to parents how important it is that you strictly follow our policy.

The nursery has a strict **NO NUT** policy and we kindly ask parents that children do not enter the nursery with any food items to help us ensure we can adhere to this policy at all times. We also kindly ask parents to keep this in mind when giving children breakfast/meals at home before coming to nursery as we do have some children with severe nut allergies.

Please can all parents ensure that you **inform the setting if your child will not be attending** due to sickness/holiday, whilst it is not compulsory for them to attend as it is private day care we do have a duty of care to record their absence's and it also really helps us with catering for the children and staff ratios.

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.