



## Newsletter December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

### Covid- 19 updates

Firstly I would like to thank you for showing your consideration in protecting our staff and wearing facemasks whilst in the reception area.

As we continue to **stay alert** with the current situation could we please ask that if your child becomes unwell or begins to show any signs or symptoms you inform the setting and seek medical advice, as you may be asked to self-isolate. We understand that this is a very difficult time but we **MUST** continue to keep all children, staff and parents safe.

In these difficult and challenging times we would like to try and still maintain the **strong partnerships** we have with parents even though the communication times are limited, therefore we kindly ask that parents still engage with us using **Tapestry**, working on children's next steps at home and commenting on their observations as well as **uploading photos** and observations of things they do at home! These links are really important and enable us to work with you to support your child's development.

In addition to this we have amended our policy to state that in order to **try and reduce the contact** between home and nursery we would be grateful if parents could **provide a water bottle** (labelled with your child name) for each child aged 2+ to **keep onsite at nursery**. We will fill them with fresh water every morning and sterilise all of the bottles in the evening.

If you do not have a copy of the most recent Covid-19 policy please let Janine or Kirsty know and we can provide you with a copy.

We have had lots of parents asking about **Christmas Cards**, if you wish to bring in Christmas cards for children/staff we will be placing a **post box in the reception area**. All cards will be quarantined for 48 hours before we place them into children's drawers and allow children to take them home.

Now the **Winter** season is here children bring a lot more accessories to nursery, **gloves, hats, scarves** and lots of them do independently remove these and put them down. It would be really helpful if parents could **ensure that children's clothes are clearly labelled** so that when they are found we can put them back on the correct child's peg.

Please can you also ensure your child has [enough suitable warm clothing](#) as we will continue to spend time outside despite the cold temperatures and must have adequate ventilation in the rooms at all times.

We would like to remind parents that the nursery will be closed for Christmas from the 25th December and will reopen on Monday 4th January. We will be open Christmas Eve but will be closing at 2pm. If your child will be absent from nursery at all the week commencing the 21st December or not attending Christmas Eve we kindly ask that you let us now so we can plan accordingly.

### **Dates for your Diaries for 2020:**

#### **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Dinner and Party.**

All children will participate in Christmas activities and party games for the duration of the day. If you wish to wear something festive please do!

A Christmas lunch will be served at their normal meal times where the children and staff within their bubbles will enjoy a festive feast together. The menu for this will be sent out in due course.

A Christmas Party tea will be served at the normal tea time and children will have a special visit from Father Christmas (an internal staff member) and will each receive a present to take home. The afternoon will be packed full of fun and games within their class bubbles.

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



#### **Did you know?**

Starting your weaning journey or struggling to introduce lumps/textures to your child?  
Please follow the link below for some further information.

[https://www.nhs.uk/start4life/weaning/?gclid=EAIaIQobChMIr9ih34iZ7QIVF9GyCh0nbACHEAAYASAAEgJB8fD\\_BwE&gclsrc=aw.ds](https://www.nhs.uk/start4life/weaning/?gclid=EAIaIQobChMIr9ih34iZ7QIVF9GyCh0nbACHEAAYASAAEgJB8fD_BwE&gclsrc=aw.ds)

As many parents will know at Bright Comets we encourage the use of Makaton with all children. We have recently had several parents request some information on Makaton therefore if you would like some information or would like to do some basic signing with the children at home below is a link you may find useful.

<https://singinhands.co.uk/gallery/>

## A Message from Each Room

This month all rooms will be doing lots of festive activities with the children.

### **Under Twos:**

If you have not done so previously please could you e-mail the nursery with some family photos so that we can make the children some family photo books?

Children moving to Meadow in December/January please start to encourage your child to drink from an open beaker.

The Makaton signs we are focusing on with our children this month are, “please”, “thank you” and “more.”

### **Meadow:**

We are going to be making an “All about me” area in our room over the next few weeks and kindly ask that you e-mail some photos of your child and their family so we can make them some family photo books.

Please could we also ask that you bring in a labelled water bottle for your child to keep at nursery.

Lastly, we will continue to be learning our Makaton signs and will be learning the sign for “Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer” this month.

### **Pre-school:**

For children starting school next September we will begin to phase out their afternoon sleeps from January in preparation for this transition – if you have any concerns about this please speak to Janine, Kirsty or Amy.

This month we will be doing lots of festive arts and crafts and talking about the changes in Season from Autumn to Winter.

## 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.

We would like to respectfully remind you that the nursery closes promptly at **6.00pm** and all children, parents, carers 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 applies to children who attend half sessions and are collected after 1pm or those brought 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 late fees.**

**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, while you inform a member of staff. Parents allowing people into the building is a breach of 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 how important it is that you strictly follow our policy.

The nursery has a strict **NO NUT** policy and we 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 absences 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, Kirsty and Team.