

Newsletter Spring 2020

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Holiday closures
(for Term-Time places only)

Spring half term

17th to 21st February

Easter Holidays

6th April to 17th April

Summer Half Term

25th May to 29th May

Summer Holidays

20th July to 4th September

Parents' Evenings

Daisies and Baby Daisy Chain

Wednesday 26th February

6.00-8.00pm

Wednesday 6th May

6.00-8.00pm

Wednesday 18th November

6.00-8.00pm

Pyjama Day

In celebration of the clocks going forward, we are having a Pyjama Day **Friday 27th March**

Tapestry

Please keep checking your child's Tapestry account. This is a great way to see what your child is doing at nursery and to share information between nursery and home.

If you haven't yet signed up, please speak to Theresa or Claire who will be able to get you on the system.

Payments and messages

When making a payment or emailing us, please add your **child's name** as a reference, as it proves extremely difficult to trace you without this.

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT WE DO NOT ALLOW ANY FOOD ITEMS THAT CONTAIN NUTS OR KIWI FRUIT INTO THE NURSERIES.

This is for the safety of any child who may have a known or unknown allergy, as the reaction to these items can be lethal.

Gates – URGENT

Please, please, please, ensure all gates are closed firmly when you enter or leave the nurseries. It is amazing how many times we find these open, and this means the nursery is not left secure for either people coming in, or children getting out!

Can we also ask Parents not to let anyone tailgate them into the nursery. Whilst it might seem OK to you, it means that people are entering the nursery without staff's knowledge and this can compromise the safety.

Staffing

We are pleased to have Kayleigh back from maternity leave and shortly be welcoming Emily back from her maternity leave.

We haven't yet finished with our personal baby-boom, as we are due other staff leaving to have babies later on this year.

Marketing

We are carrying out a marketing project for the nurseries. Part of this may include us getting some photos or video images of the nursery in action, as this tells it's own story to prospective parents. With this in mind we may well ask some parents if they want to be included, by giving a short statement of how they find the nursery. If you are interested in doing this then please let Veronica know.

We also have the review cards in the main entrances, and are registered with 'Day Nurseries.co.uk'; 'Google' and 'Childcare.co.uk' so please take a little time in giving us a review, as these make a huge impact on our visibility to prospective parents on-line.

Book 'Swap and Share' Scheme

You may have noticed in the nursery entrances, that there is a basket with books in. Sharing books, stories and rhymes is crucial to your child's education and learning, so we want to encourage this as much as possible.

It is recognized that sharing books and stories is beneficial to children's skills in speaking, listening, and reading and enables them to hear and develop their own language and vocabulary. Apart from that it is such a lovely cosy, sharing experience for you and your child.

The idea of the scheme is that if you have books at home that you no longer use, you bring them in and donate them to this scheme (just put them in the basket).

Also, you can have a look to see if there is a book that you think your child may like, so you can take this.

In this way your child will get to experience a range of different books. You can enjoy the treasured time of sharing a story or book with your child, without the huge cost often involved in buying new books.

NEWS FROM THE ROOMS:-



Buttercups

We have been thrilled to welcome Alice as the room leader, and the team are enjoying her enthusiasm and dedication. And welcome to Elize and Hannah joining their team. The babies are learning a 'Makaton sign of the week' and also a 'colour of the week' in their role play area, with their fruit and veg. They are working on a 'Family Book' so can we ask you to bring in family photos to share in this. A huge THANK YOU to all parents for their lovely comments and observations on Tapestry. It's great to see so much active participation.



Poppies

Gentle reminders:-

We have welcomed Becky to the group, and Kayleigh is settling back in following her maternity leave. Can we ask parents to hang up the children's bags on their pegs at the start of their session. Please be mindful that these bags are in reach of the children, so please do not put anything in them that could be of harm to the children.

Parents – can we remind you to ensure the gate and white door are closed upon entry or exit. This ensures that children cannot access the main road without supervision, and ensures that unwanted visitors cannot gain entry into the nursery without the staff's knowledge.

We are still asking for donations of household, natural objects (anything wood, metal, in particular), avoiding plastics!

We are also looking for 'Facts Books' so if you have any please bring them in as the children are really enjoying these.



Daisies

Daisies have been doing lots of work on 'promoting positive behaviours'. Often at this time of year we have a lot of new children, and have to spend time doing some focus work on them learning how to socialize in an acceptable manner. Whilst 'unacceptable' behavior can appear alarming to adults, please remember that the children just need time to learn and practice the very complex skills required in social interactions. They will get there! But just need the practice to do so.

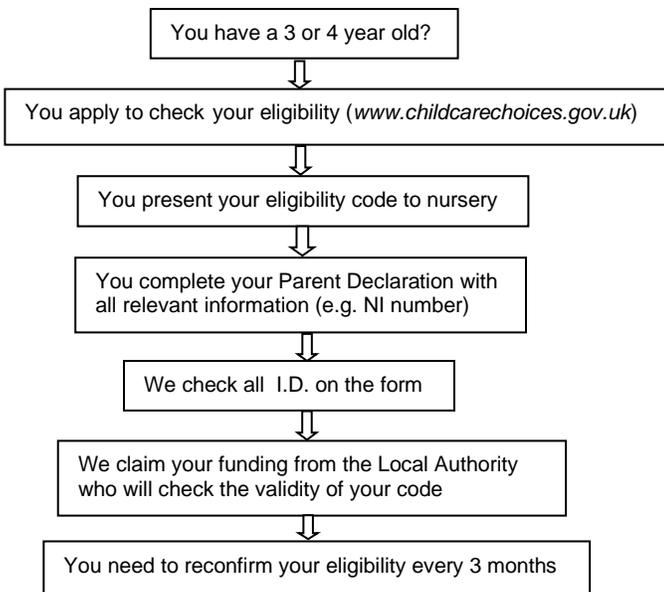
Gentle reminders:-

Please remember that if you bring in a packed lunch it must be COLD. We are not allowed to give children food such as rice dishes, as we cannot ensure they are safe to eat once stored during the morning.

Whilst we know the children are very excited about bringing their own toys to nursery, this causes a lot of problems at nursery, with arguments and concerns over keeping them safe. Can we ask you to resist the temptation of bringing in toys from home if at all possible.

30 hours funding / Tax free childcare – ARE YOU ELIGIBLE?

It is your responsibility to check your eligibility. The process is shown below:-



Happy Birthday!

Can you believe that Daisy Chain Crawley is 10 years old this year (officially the pre-school building, not Baby Daisies, who are naturally a bit younger!).

We will plan some celebrations later in the year, so watch this space for more information

Tax-Free childcare

Also via the Childcare Choices website you can find information about Tax Free Childcare. Here are 10 things you need to know about it:-

1. You can open an online account, which you pay into to cover the cost of childcare.
2. For every 80p you pay in, the government will top up an extra 20p
3. The scheme is available for children under the age of 12
4. To qualify, you have to be in work and earning at least £120 a week
5. Any eligible working family can use the Tax-free childcare scheme
6. The scheme is available for parents who are self-employed
7. If you currently receive Employer-supported childcare then you can continue to do so.
8. Parents and others can pay money into their childcare account as and when you like
9. The process will be as easy as possible for you
10. You'll be able to withdraw money from the account if you want to.

More information is available from www.childcarechoices.gov.uk or www.gov.uk