

Birchfield Nursery School

Newsletter January 2016

Happy New Year to Everyone

Welcome to our new children who started with us in January, we are now full and will not be having an April intake this year. Our next intake will be for September 2016 and places are filling quickly, please pass on an application form to anyone who may be interested.

Lots of items to read about please ask a member of staff if you are unsure of anything or you have any concerns.

How you can help your child

Dropping off and picking up

As school is really busy now and most of the children have settled in well it would really help us get off to a prompt start if parents could help children hang up coats and take them to their rooms as soon as possible so key carers can start register. Sometimes a quick goodbye is easier for your child so they can start to focus on what we are going to do at nursery.

Lending Library

From Monday 25th January our lending library will be set up and located right at the end of the corridor past room 1. Your child will have a book bag and you can help them choose a book to take home and share with you at bedtime or another quiet time. As we start to explore letters and sounds it's really important that your child has some 1-1 time with you or a family member to share a book without the television on or other distractions. Enjoy the illustrations and encourage your child to tell you the story through the pictures. Point to the words as you read together so they get used to left to right orientation and talk to them about the title of the book, the name of the author and illustrator, you could also read the blurb on the back of the book together to decide if its sounds like a good story. As we start doing some early phonics your child may start to get interested in letters, early on they may recognise some of the letters in their name. Please use the sounds the letters make rather than the names so the children can start putting together sounds to blend and make into words. We will send more information to help you with this or ask your key carer for guidance.



You can use the lending library when you want to, we suggest once a week, pick a day to remember and swap it when you are getting your child ready to go home. Please make sure you return a book before you take a new one. Let us know your favourite stories and how your child is getting on sharing bedtime books.

Mini Rugby

Ben has been coming along to nursery over the past weeks to provide rugby mini's coaching to the blue and red groups. This works out at £24.00 per child for 12 weeks. Thank you so much if you have sent in your donation towards this, if you have forgotten we are still happy to receive the voluntary donation to help support the costs of running these sessions. Orange, Green and Yellow groups will be starting their 12 week block on Monday 7th March, we will send you a reminder in February.



Spare Clothes

We have very few spare clothes at nursery and ask that you make sure your child always has a change of clothes with them in their bag, including underwear, socks, jogging bottoms/leggings and tops. Children always feel better in their own clothes if they need to get changed due to toileting or messy play accidents. If you do have any spare items you would like to donate to nursery we are especially short of things for boys.

Visits to Wade Deacon

We are developing our links with Wade Deacon High School and they have kindly offered to put on some design and technology lessons with our children. One group of children have visited so far and enjoyed making boats with wood. We will send a letter home to you when it is your child's turn to go. We are also looking at visiting their forest school sessions, dance performances and our usual visit to the running track for mini Olympics in the summer. We will keep you up to date with any future plans.

Diary Dates

Friday 12 th February	School closes – Half Term	Normal times
Monday 22 nd February	School opens	Normal times
Thursday 3 rd March	World Book Day	Children to bring along their favourite book to share with their key carer. Please put your child's name in the book so we can make sure they get safely returned.
Informal Drop In Coffee Morning/Afternoons to view child's learning journey and chat to key carer.		
Monday 7 th March	Green group	Mornings from 10.45am Afternoons from 2.45pm
Tuesday 8 th March	Red group	
Wednesday 9 th March	Blue group	
Thursday 10 th March	Orange group	
Friday 11 th March	Yellow group	
Friday 18 th March	Sport Relief Day	Further details to follow
Thursday 24 th March	School closes-Easter Weekend	Normal times
Tuesday 29 th March	School opens	Normal times
Friday 1 st April	School closes –Easter Holidays	Morning children - early finish doors open 10.45-11.00am Afternoon children - early finish doors open 2.45-3.00pm
Monday 18 th April	School opens	Normal times

Observations and VIP sheets

Our Spring term is always busy with lots going on and a key term for us to focus on the children's learning and support the progress they are making. You may receive a form from your child's key carer to fill in asking for your views about how your child is doing. Each week we work as a team to focus on different children in the nursery and all staff are involved in observations and setting our next steps for them. This is a rolling programme so you will get your VIP sheet to fill in the week when we will be focusing on your child. Thank you for returning these promptly to your key carer it really helps us to ensure your child makes great progress.

Phonics –“Read, Write, Inc.”

We are starting to introduce the children to some letters and sounds and simple phonics, we have decided to use some of the resources from a scheme that many primary schools use called “Read, Write, Inc.” We will send you some further information over the next few weeks to help you support your child at home. Mrs Liku is supporting our staff team to develop their skills with this and we will be doing training in our staff meetings.

Self - Help Skills

Over the next few weeks we will be observing and assessing children across all areas of the curriculum. Please encourage your child to become independent by letting them practice some of the following skills at home with you.

Physical development – Health and Self-Care

To reach 30-50 months on Development Matters the children need to -

- Tell adults when hungry or tired, when they want to rest or play
- Observe the effects of activity on their body
- Understand that equipment and tools have to be used safely
- Gains more bowel and bladder control and can attend toileting needs most of the time themselves
- Can usually manage washing and drying hands
- Dress with help e.g. puts arms into open fronted coat or shirt, pulls down own trousers and pulls up zipper once it is fastened at the bottom

Safeguarding



We have noticed a growing number of parents coming into nursery using their mobile phones. As part of our safeguarding procedures and policy when the children are in nursery mobile phones should not be used. This is following other serious incidents that have taken place in the past in other nurseries and to safeguard your children. Please make sure you turn off your phone and put it away when you come in to drop off/collect your child. Thank you.

Morning Children – Daily Routine.

8.30am	Flexible drop off until 8.45am
8.50am	Self-register and welcome time
9.10am	Group time with key carer – Adult led activity SEAL, circle time, story box activities – phonics and maths.
9.30am	Continual provision (choice indoors/outdoors) Rolling snack – children to go to room 3.
10.50am	Tidy up time and back to key carer group. Adult led activity.
11.15am	Flexible Pick up until 11.30am

Fridays

8.30am	Flexible drop off until 8.45am
8.50am	Self-register and welcome time
9.00am	Group time with key carer – Adult led activity SEAL, circle time, story box activities – phonics and maths
9.30am	Continual provision (choice indoors/outdoors) Rolling snack – children to go to room 3.
10.00am	Singing with Mrs Davies (Class 5)
10.25am	Continual provision Rolling snack – children to go to room 3.
10.40am	Tidy up time
10.50am	Celebration time – room 2 with all children Star of the week and treat time.
11.15am	Flexible pick up until 11.30am

Afternoon Children – Daily Routine.

12.30pm	Flexible drop off until 12.45pm
12.50pm	Sit down for register and planning time
1.10pm	Group time with key carer – Adult led activity SEAL, Circle time, Story box activities – letters and sounds and maths.
1.30pm	Continual provision (choice indoors/outdoors) Rolling snack – children to go to room 3
2.50pm	Tidy up time and back to key carer group. Adult led activity.
3.00pm	Key carer time in base room
3.15pm	Flexible Pick up until 3.30pm

Fridays

12.30pm	Flexible drop off until 12.45pm
12.50pm	Key carer time
1.00pm	Singing with Mrs Davies (class 5)
1.30pm	Continual provision (choice indoors/outdoors) Rolling snack – children to go to room 3
2.40pm	Tidy up time
2.50pm	Celebration time – class 2
3.15pm	Flexible pick up until 3.30pm

Thank you for all your support.

Lindsey Weedall
Head Teacher