



September 2016 – Newsletter.

A big welcome to all our new children who have just started with us, everyone is settling in well, some children are happy to get stuck in straight away, others like to watch and wait, some are doing shorter sessions till they feel more confident but all are making excellent progress.

We have all been impressed with the returning children who have grown up so much over the summer and have taken on the job of being the big ones at nursery, helping the new children find their way around, playing kindly and sharing and taking turns. We are very proud of them.

We would also like to welcome Mrs Janet Hooton to our team at nursery, she has settled in really well working with the Hedgehog group with Miss Gould. In January she will be the key carer for the rabbit group. Mrs Karen Millington is now working 3 days, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and Mrs Wendi Rogerson is working 2 days, Mondays and Fridays. We have got some staff members accessing training over the next few weeks (including First Aid), we try hard to make sure that we use familiar staff to cover groups if anyone is out on training or during staff absence.

Keeping in touch

Please check our website and Facebook pages to keep in touch with what's going on at nursery, we will send you regular newsletters with information as well, if you lose the paper copy there is one on the website.

Settling in

Our first few weeks are spent settling the children into the routine so they feel confident to access all the opportunities at nursery. The children spend the first and last part of the session in their key carer groups, this is a key time when we talk to them about our nursery rules, how to be kind and share and how to help each other. We also start to introduce speaking and listening activities, simple number games and story time to develop literacy skills. These sessions will lengthen and develop into more teacher focused activities over the year.

We do understand that occasionally children may need to leave nursery before the end of the session but we would encourage parents to leave them for the complete session as much as possible as they will miss out the teaching session at the end if they go early. All 3 and 4 year olds are entitled to 15 hours of nursery education per week and we plan a rich curriculum for them over all the 15 hours.

How you can help your child become independent

Bring your child into nursery and teach them how to hang their bag and coat on their peg. Encourage them to go to the toilet before you drop them off with their key carer at their class door. Be firm but

kind saying goodbye and you will see them soon. We will always ring for you to come early if a child gets too distressed. If they see Mum hanging around too long it will often make them feel unsettled.

When you collect your child from their key carer at the end of the session please make sure they stay with you in the corridor and you help them collect their coat and bag. It does get busy in the corridor and children can feel very frightened if there are lots of adults and big children around and they can't see their parent. We ask that parents/carers hold hands with their child as they come through the front door of nursery so they are safe walking out, we are not far from a busy road and children can run fast when they want to. We explain to the children that they are not allowed across the magic yellow line at the front door without a grown up. Please help us reinforce this rule.

No Parking

Parking is not allowed in the staff carpark unless you have a blue disabled badge. This is to make sure all our children are safe walking down the pathway into nursery. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

Drink Bottles

Please make sure your child's name is on their water bottle to help us find it if they put it in the wrong place. Only water is allowed in the bottles, no juice to comply with our Healthy school initiative and to support children's dental health. Children can also have a drink of milk when they have their snack.

Nursery Uniform

The grey sweatshirts from Boydells (£10.00) have been really popular and the children look very smart. Please remember to put your child's name in their sweatshirt so we can make sure it gets home to you if they take it off.

As the weather changes please bring in a pair of wellingtons for your child to leave at nursery with their name in. We can then make sure we can get out in all weathers to learn. Warm coats, hats and gloves (with names in) may be needed soon as the Autumn sets in.

Birchfield Nursery school green rucksacks are available for £4.00 from the office to put a change of clothes in for your child. Children often have toilet accidents when they first start and it is nicer for them if we can change them into their own clothes. They also sometimes get very wet or messy in play and may need a change of clothes, socks, pants, joggers/leggings and t shirts are the easiest.

We are planning lots of exciting things for later in the term and will let you know some dates and activities on our next newsletter. Please let us know if you have any worries or concerns, ask to speak to your child's key carer first, myself and Mrs Long are also around to help if you have any questions or worries.

Lindsey Weedall

(Head Teacher)