

February & March 2024 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

At Little Stars, we believe in cultivating an environment where children are free to make choices, learn at their own pace, and gain the confidence to build positive relationships with the people around them. Our aim is to build a nursery where children and their families feel welcome and appreciated. So, thank you to all those parents who have and continue to support us.

At Little Stars, our children have the opportunity to safely engage in daily activities such as visiting the post office, the local shops and other local amenities as well as enjoying the beautiful parks nearby. We aim to provide children with the opportunity to embrace nature, explore, and experiment.

Being outdoors in all weathers allows children to assess risks safely, make choices, and use all their senses to learn about the world around them as well as adopting healthy lifestyle habits.

Topics for February and March

- * Our topics over these 2 months are Clothes / Plants, Flowers and Growing.

How to teach your child to put on their coat independently:

- * Follow the You Tube link below to find out how to teach your child to put their coat on independently.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5J7Slnawmm0&safe=active>

INSET DAYS – vital training

I would like to remind all parents all Bank holidays, INSET /Training days and Christmas week closures are NOT exchangeable or given back in any circumstances. In your contract you have signed clearly you agree to them.

We are open all year round providing essential care and a service to term time and private care.

Inset days was introduced into the education system in 1988 to allow teachers/staff/practitioners to take part in professional development or in-service training.

An inset day means no children attending, but it's far from being a holiday or fun for practitioners. This allows all staff to participate in training sessions, workshops, and interactive participation to enhance their skills and knowledge in childcare, education, health & safety and safeguarding as well as vocational learning to better professional development, better practice, update on current policies, brainstorm solutions and challenges early years sector brings. Overall, inset days plays a crucial role in maintaining high standards of care and education in our nursery by investing in the professional development and well being of all our staff members.

It's a shame if any of you parents disagree as all this ultimately benefits the children and the quality of standards are maintained with our Ofsted grading as well. Staff work long hours and majority work all year round caring for children, so this is all justified in upskilling our team members. Support rather than criticise in anyway. Early years sector is already suffering and losing good staff in it's industry.

Nursery Planner 2023/24

I have attached a **NEW PLANNER** – as we have made some changes – please check as there was a mistake. It's been updated with correct dates. Please stick this on your fridge or somewhere so you don't forget.

Nursery is a full and busy place

It is important, more than ever, that we work together to ensure everyone stays happy and safe. Here are just a few ways we can do this:

- * Velcro shoes where ever possible.
- * Label all items of clothing, this will ensure a swift return!
- * Please no toys from home– children get upset
- * when others bring things from home as they have been told they are not allowed. No toys mean no unnecessary upset.
- * Ensure children wear suitable clothing for outdoors

Nursery places/sessions

Please notify us if you have any queries for April/September term, any changes, add on, take away etc.

Fees increase

From the 1st April prices in fees are going up by 5%. There will be special offers for new parents joining us. Siblings will still receive 5% discount but will only apply for the eldest child and not transfer to the youngest.

NHS workers, teachers and if you work for the services Police/Fire/Army you will also receive 5% discount monthly on your invoice.

Consumables, flat hourly rate and Ad Hoc sessions will have a slight increase which will be available on the new price list coming out by the 1st March.

Dates to remember:

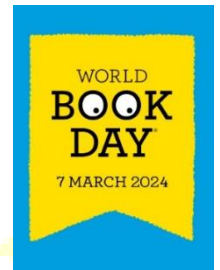
- Last day of term - Thursday 8th Feb
- INSET DAY Nursery Closed - Friday 9th Feb
- Half term holidays - 12th – 16th Feb
- World Book Week - 4th - 8th March (Dress up as your favourite characters)
- Mother's Day – Sunday 10th March
- Last day of term – Thursday 28th March
- Easter break – 29th March -15th April (Holidays 2 weeks)
- Bank Holidays – Good Friday 29th & Easter Monday 1st April (nursery closed)
- Nursery reopens – 15th April

Gentle reminders

- * Please remember to notify us if you are going on holiday as you are still liable for your fees. Whether you are off sick or absent for any reason please call or message on the FAMLly app or email in latest by 9:30am.
- * Please bring your child on time either at 8am or 9am – it disturbs the whole session and group time; I'm sure you couldn't do this at school so please don't interrupt the nurseries routine either. Staff are also busy in rooms and everyone in routines to keep answering the door.
- * Pick your child up on time from nursery.
- * Label everything you bring with your child's name.
- * Could you not bring water bottles as we supply them.
- * Wear indoor shoes to keep the nursery clean and feet safe.

World Book week 4th–8th March 2024

Please dress-up all week Story characters from books, films, cartoons, films and programmes that are special to you.



Mother's Day – 10th March

Please let us know if you would like us to address the card to someone else who is important to, you're the child. Speak or message staff/manager on FAMLly or email in.

St Patrick's Day celebrated at nursery and dressing up in GREEN on Friday 15th March.



Any questions please ask or email manager@littlestars-daynursery.com

Or you can message on FAMLly app to staff or privately to me.
Please always look out for our notices on windows and handouts.

Kind regards,
Reena and nursery team.