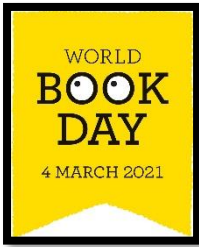


February and March Newsletter 2021



Dear Parents/Carers,

Already this year is very different to the one we had planned and hoped for. We have many fun things planned this year for example our Dress Up week for World Book Day, Save the Children Charities fun days, Yearly Photographer, hopefully a Graduation Party, and a Summer Prom and many events and activities but ONLY if the Government guidelines allow us to do so.

We will keep you informed with dates and notices if they are able to go ahead so please keep a look out on windows for posters and handouts, newsletters etc. I will also pin across to parents on emails if you request it, so you can have the information.

COVID has disrupted our lives since last year but we have been successfully working well together with everyone's support in keeping the nursery safe. Can I say a huge thank you for all the emails and messages of support and understanding through these again difficult times, and probably worse than before? But we all managed before and can do this again. We all need to keep each other and our families safe.

We have been open as normal as per Government requirement but due to the demand we have reduced class sizes, sessions, and timings that have impacted staff. We have families accessing who are critical workers and vulnerable children and majority children have stayed at home. We have provided flexibility and accommodated where possible to families requiring childcare. We have still been providing hot and nutritious meals to children and still advise parents to bring in healthy packed lunches, not chocolates, crisps and sugary drinks.

I would also like to address our sincere condolences to families at our nursery who have lost loved ones over this period and who have had COVID within their families and understand how real it is. We are here to support you if you require it, please get in touch so we can help you further.

General reminders

Chinese New Year, Shrove Tuesday, Valentine's Day - To develop the children's understanding & knowledge of different activities we are celebrating Chinese New Year. The children will have opportunities to dress in traditional Chinese costumes, make masks & dragons, learn a dragon dance & eat a Chinese menu cooked by Wendy our chef. Pancake day will be a fun day trying favourite flavours and toppings on our yummy pancakes. And Valentines we will be making cupcakes to bring back home.

Coats, shoes, wellies, hats, scarves, jumpers, etc - Please make sure your child's names are inside their clothes, shoes and wellies. We cannot take responsibility for unnamed items as it is impossible to match unnamed items to children. We have lost property basket with items and when they are not claimed after one month they will be donated to charity.

Independence - Children's confidence grows as they learn how to become independent. As they begin to master new skills, they see themselves as being capable. This belief feeds their confidence and pushes

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them to try more new things in the future. So please teach them to put on their own shoes and coats. Especially pre-schoolers who are lacking in this skill and soon to move to school.

Toilet training – Starts at home and we support it at nursery as we can only encourage children. Its not only a practitioner to work on it themselves but we reinforce what you do at home. Children in preschool need to start being more confident and independent when starting to use the toilet. Please encourage your child.

30-hour checker confirmation - Please can we remind parents who have not reconfirmed their codes since the 1st January to do so & let Reena know. If we don't receive confirmation before 31st March then children will not be able to attend for 30 hours from 1st April.

Attendance - Please can we remind you if your child is absent from nursery that you contact us (by either telephone or email) on the first day of absence giving the reason for your child's absence. If you do not contact us, we will follow this up with a telephone call. All reasons for absence are recorded in a log book. We realise attending nursery is non-statutory, however we do have a duty to record & report attendance and absenteeism. Good attendance at nursery is important in achieving success in all areas of learning & development and good practice for statutory school life.

Donations - We like having donations from our parents who bring tissue boxes, fruits, and snacks, stationary etc to share with the children. I would like to say a big thank you for contributions from all that do contribute and support the nursery with lovely thoughts.

April & September New Enrolments - We are booking and taking on new children already for the new terms but again if our existing parents would also like to extend or change days please let us know in advance.

Spread the word - Spread the word for Little Stars Day Nursery. We appreciate all those who highly recommend us in the community and I am sure you all can see and feel the difference within the nursery. We have a lot more to provide and serve everyone to the best we can as a team. I personally appreciate everyone who have supported us through the past year and been as flexible as we have, a big thank you.

Important dates for February:

- **Valentines week 8th – 12th Feb** Please dress in **PINKS, PURPLES, ORANGES, REDS** to celebrate the whole week.
- **Chinese New Year Friday 12th Feb** Please dress in **REDS and GOLDS** i.e. dresses, jumpers, t-shirts, hair accessories, fun costumes for the week to celebrate. It's the year of the Ox.
- **Pancake Day Tuesday 16th Feb** We will be making pancakes to celebrate the day with a choice of fillings for the children to enjoy and experience.

Important dates for March:

- **World Book Day 1st – 5th March** Please dress up all week as your favourite character from any story, superhero or show you like.
- **Inset day Friday 19th March**
- **Parents Meeting Wednesday 31st March** Starting from 6pm to 8.45pm if we are able to go ahead.
- **Last day of term Wednesday 31st March finishing at 5pm.**

Any questions or just a quick chat, just let me know if I can help you with anything.

Kindest regards,
Reena