



November and December Newsletter 2022

We hope you have all had a lovely half term break; it is hard to believe that we have already completed our first half term of the academic year. The next half term promises to be a very busy time with lots of opportunities and experiences for the children.

Theme of the month

In **November the theme of the month is Festivals/Celebrations**. The children have already explored aspects of Diwali, autumn and natural resources. Together with the teachers they will now discover many festivals like Bonfire Night and Remembrance Day (Poppy Day) as well as Hanukah towards December and the much-awaited festive occasion of Christmas.

December the learning theme is Weather/Seasons. A lot of activities and events will take place over these 7 weeks of fun, laughter and joy together. Please watch out for reminders and alerts of events on the windows and letters/handouts given out.

Jeans for Genes Day Charity

We raised **£35** so thank you to those who donated on the day and wore their jeans or something blue.



Crackerjack Charity

We raised **£56** so thank you to those who helped with donations.



Halloween Dress Up

Well done for all the effort in dressing up and grabbing the best dressed prizes. Hope you all got your little gifts bags too. We enjoy the efforts from parents and participation that is made.

Dressing up is a form of imaginative play — and imaginative play boosts problem-solving and self-regulation skills. Kids create situations and scenes and act out social events. They're able to test out new ideas and behaviours in a comfortable environment. Dress-up encourages creative thinking and communication skills.

BBC – Children in Need Charity -

We are doing a **Fancy Dress up for 2 days on Friday 18th and Monday 21st November**. Together, we can change the lives of the children and young people that need us most. That way, your donations help us to support those experiencing disadvantage throughout the UK.



The Lullaby Trust – Pyjama week

I'm delighted to tell you Little Stars Day Nursery will be holding a **Pyjama Week on Monday 14th – Thursday 17th November**. This will be a fundraising event in aid of **The Lullaby Trust**, when children can wear their snazziest pyjamas to nursery for a whole 4 days of the week of fun with lots of storytelling, singing songs, reciting rhymes and creating magical artwork. We ask that each child/family kindly donates £2 to take part.



Don't forget those 'Wow moments'

Please pick up a sheet for WOW moments and fill them in for us and return to the person at the door. Share special moments and learning from home. We look forward to celebrating these with the children at nursery and will file them in their Learning Journey. You will find them at the nursery entrance/patio in the leaflet holder.

Parents Meeting

We are able to go ahead with parents meeting but due to the number of parents we are still going to restrict to only one parent to attend unfortunately on **Friday 3rd December between 4pm-7.20pm**. We will put up the time slots outside for you to pencil in your names to see your key person in the evening. If you prefer a phone call with your key person then please let us know and we can arrange that call. Remember your time slot is only for 10 minutes with your key person.

Open Day

Please let other family, friends, neighbours and the local community know of our nursery and we have an **Open Day on Saturday 19th Nov between 10-3pm**. Any parent recommending will receive a goodie hamper from the nursery and a free full day session for your child (the family have to enrol for you to qualify).

Absences

If your child is unable to attend nursery for any reason, for example, if your child is unwell or simply staying home for the day tell us. If your child has a cough, cold, runny nose, fever, vomiting or diarrhoea, **PLEASE DO NOT BRING THEM IN**. We will return you back home as you are not being fair to staff and other children and again this is negligence. Please can you ensure that you call us **0208 894 2590** or send us an email to: manager@littlestars-daynursery.com or simply update it on the FAMLY app. Please do not ask for compensating days if you are off on sickness or on holiday. It's all in the T&C's.

Is your child registered with a Dentist?

It is really important that you register your child with a dentist from as early as possible. During these present times, dentists are very busy but still offering appointments.

However, you can support your child by encouraging and supporting them to clean their teeth properly. Also consider how much sugar is in the foods and drinks that you are feeding your child.

If you need any help or support, please talk to one of our team. We have teeth cleaning reward charts and lots of resources which we can share with your child at nursery or lend if required.

We will be inviting in a parent, the well-known Dr Dhiraj Arora graduated from Guy's, King's and St Thomas' Dental Institute, completing his Bachelor of Dental Surgery in 2007.

In 2009, he went on to complete his postgraduate examinations and gain The Diploma of Membership of the Joint Dental Faculties at The Royal College of Surgeons of England.

Following his passion in endodontics, Dhiraj completed his Masters in Endodontic Practice at Barts and The Royal London. His postgraduate training has equipped him with the latest knowledge and skills required to provide high quality, evidence-based endodontic treatment in practice. He is a current member of the British Endodontic Society and the European Society of Endodontology. Dhiraj's primary research interest is in the use of CBCT and digital imaging in Endodontics.

The most favoured aspects of his career are helping patients and educating other dental practitioners. His keen interest in teaching led him to gain a Postgraduate Certificate in Dental Education from Oxford Brookes University.

He has been actively involved in the mentorship of newly qualified dentists and is an experienced Educational Supervisor with over 8 years' experience within the London Deanery. This, along with being an Honorary Lecturer in Endodontics (QMUL) allows him to combine his enthusiasm for Endodontic treatment and teaching. We are honoured to have Dr Dhiraj Arora to be speaking to staff and demonstrating on Oral Hygiene at the nursery once every term for all the children. We will let you know when this takes place.

New/Additional sessions

Please inform us if you require new sessions/additional hours/or eligible for 30 hrs funding next term. We will accommodate you the best possible way.

We are looking into reopening up to 6pm if we can allocate 10 children for Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays. But if we can't then we will not reopen for 6pm until the April term and reassess the circumstances for later September 2023. We currently still finish at 5pm due to the very low numbers we have. The prices reflect until 5pm only, if 6pm comes into effect the prices will also increase further with a plus hour rate.

Snacks /Meal times

I think there is a confusion of snack time times with preschool, we still offer this but a reduced quantity as children are eating breakfast by 9am, then having snack at 10/10.30am with milk and then to eat lunch by 11.30am. Children are not just here to eat but to learn and develop through play. They get enough food to keep them going through their allocated session time.

We offer a smaller amount compared to the selections we were doing and children seemed to fill themselves up more at snack times and not eat at their main meal times by pushing away their filled plates of food or their packed lunches.

The comments we have from previous/past parents are that their children are now struggling at school as they do not have the flexibility of food times as we had almost every hour and are unable to wait from 8.45 to 12 to eat at school lunch times.

Cost of food is still high and we are still purchasing enough, so no child goes without. But we see the eating habits of children somewhat surprising or not so exposed to fresh vegetables and fruits/salads. Packed lunches coming through have been seen as unhealthy and inappropriate, lacking nutrition for their growing child.

We keep it balanced, nutritional and appetising with a mixture of classics, favourites and cultural recipes.

A Potential Price Increase 2023 – still to confirm

Unfortunately, with all the costs of living going up we are forced to relook at our prices again for January 2023. That means price for food, hourly flat rate, Ad Hoc sessions and monthly invoices will have a slight increase, but we will try our best to keep it affordable as well. Please look out for any updates December to reflect from January.

REMINDERS

- No shoelaces or Open Toes – only Velcro or slip on
- No belts /dungarees
- Label all bags, coats, hats etc
- Bring in your indoor shoes
- NO WATER BOTTLES – we have them here with the child's picture and name

- No toys
- No food containing nuts

Important dates to remember for the diary

- **14th - 17th Nov** – Pyjama week (4 days only)
- **14th - 18th Nov** – Road Safety Week
- **18th Friday & 21st Monday Nov** BBC Children in Need/Fancy Dress
- **3rd Dec** – Parents meeting (4pm – 7.30pm) only one parent to attend
- **5th - 9th Dec** – Christmas Jumper Week (best jumper – wins a price)
- **13th & 15th Dec** – Christmas Party (food & drink donations please)
- **14th Dec** – Christmas Lunch for children
- **16th Dec** – Last day for children/ holidays star
- **16th Dec** – Nursery Closed INSET Day
- **3rd Jan 2022** – Return back as normal at 9am



Christmas Week

We will only be **open 19th – 22nd Dec** for private paying parents between Monday – Thursday, please speak to Reena if you have any queries.

Christmas lunch

Anyone wanting a Christmas lunch (roast dinner with all the trimmings and a cracker) on Wednesday 14th Dec please inform the office with £3.00 for the cost.

Contact us if you have any concerns, ideas or complaints – let us help you resolve and support you

If you have any concerns, complaints or suggestions/ideas please contact me via email, telephone, or ask to talk to me: **0208 894 2590** or manager@litlestars-daynursery.com

Any questions please speak to Management team, call on 0208 894 - 2590 or email manager@litlestars-daynursery.com

Kind regards

Reena Pharma

(Nursery Manager)