

Summer Newsletter 2019

Dear Parents,

I hope this newsletter finds you all well, if this is your first newsletter, we would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to Babraham Nursery. If you are leaving us this summer we would like to wish you all the very best for the future and for school in September; we would love to receive some photos of the children in their school uniforms! I hope you will all re-join us for the BBQ on Saturday 14th September.

Nursery News



Over the last two months we have been very busy across nursery. The Pre-school room have been learning all about first aid, with Amelia from AG First Aid Training visiting them each week. The children particularly liked learning how to do CPR with 'Flat Stan'. We hope that the children in Pre-school have been sharing what they have learnt at home!



The Squirrels den, Pelicans and Pre-school were also visited by the lovely therapy dogs, Maia and Odin, from Therapy Dogs Nationwide. The children really enjoyed meeting them again, you may have seen them at last year's Nursery BBQ.



One of our parents very kindly visited the older children in nursery to talk about their job as a Paediatric Anaesthetist. The children listened intently to what happened if you went into hospital and needed an operation or small procedure. She described to the children that she is there to help put the children to sleep and look after them.

Dragon hunt



Our Dragon hunt this year was a great success and it was lovely to see so many of our families joining in the fun. The children had fun matching dragons and other fairy tale characters to win their prizes. We also enjoyed art and craft activities and some lovely tea and cake! We would like to thank all those that supported us with this event.



Staffing News



We would like to welcome Sara Gomes, Michelle Franklin and Adam Duggan to our Nursery team. **Sara** joins us as a Nursery Assistant and has had previous experience within the healthcare sector and **Michelle** joins us as a level 2 Nursery Nurse, who is coming back into early years after having time off with family. Both have joined the Caterpillar team and are quickly settling in to Nursery life. **Adam** has joined us as our new full-time Kitchen Assistant, this area of work is a new endeavour for him.

Within the Caterpillar room **Jo Daily** has moved to the Pelican room as their morning Nursery Nurse, while **Valentina Pantaleo** and **Nikki Fairbrother** have joined the roving team within Nursery, covering rooms where needed. We welcome **Chloe Dover** into the Caterpillar room as our full-time Nursery Nurse. Chloe, who has worked across nursery since 2016, has already completed her Level 2 qualification, is currently undertaking her level 3 childcare qualification, attending college one day a week.

We would like to congratulate **Eadie Fletcher** on the birth of her baby, both baby and Eadie are doing well and hope to come and see us at Nursery soon. **Ellesha Prince** is covering Eadie's full time post in the Pelican room.

We would also like to congratulate **Nevena Pyke**, who has successfully completed her Level 3 childcare qualification.

Annual Nursery BBQ

The Parents Sub-Committee are currently, in collaboration with nursery, planning and organising this year's barbeque, to be held on Saturday 14th September. We are very much looking forward to another fun filled day, including; Bouncy castles, face painting, ice cream van, our raffle and much more. A BBQ newsletter will be coming your way very shortly with some more details! It is quite a big event so if you could help in any way please let us know, it would be much appreciated!



Dress up and bring a bottle day

We will be holding a Dressing up day at Nursery on **Tuesday 25th June**. You are invited to bring your children in fancy dress and bring a bottle or jar filled with goodies (e.g. homemade jars of

crayons/stickers, jars of foodstuff, sweets, beauty things, fruit drinks, wine, spirits, etc - all welcome!) These will then be used for our bottle stall at our annual Nursery BBQ.

Sports day

Sports day for Squirrels, Pelicans and Pre-school will take place on **Wednesday 17th July** on the field next to Nursery. This involves many different activities, both traditional; such as the egg and spoon race, obstacle courses and bike races and those which were more group orientated, such as the bubble station, wellie wanging and finding buried treasure. A Sports day letter will follow towards the end of June with more information.

Parking

We realise that parking at peak times can be difficult at nursery, and now that the evenings are getting lighter families may well be beginning to stay longer at nursery, playing on the field. We would be grateful if you could take care when parking and also when leaving the nursery with your child, as although this is a relatively quiet area, it does get quite congested at key times of day. Your assistance would be very much appreciated by all, thank you.

Garden play: Loose parts

The children absolutely love exploring our loose parts area in the garden, which supports all areas of their learning and development. We often have lots of fun building castles, trains and obstacle courses. Within this area we have many real life resources such as, bricks, planks of wood, large stones, for this reason can we please ask that children arrive to Nursery in shoes that are suitable for these kinds of activities. We ask especially, that they are enclosed (not open-toed sandals) and are securely fastened to their feet, supporting the whole foot. Thank you for your support in this matter.



Consultation evening

Our annual Consultation Evening will take place on **Tuesday 2nd July** and is an opportunity for you to discuss your child's individual development with their key person. If your key person is absent on this day, they will arrange a meeting with you at a time that is convenient for you. There is also opportunity to look through your child's folder, if you would like to take this home at any time, please speak to your keyworker and sign it out on the relevant form. Closer to the event, each room will put up time slots for each key person, so that you can book a suitable time.

Blossom

We are currently in the process of introducing an online learning journey system to nursery. We are planning to first share this with parents in the Ducklings and Caterpillar rooms, followed by the rest

of the nursery. Blossom is used in a very similar way to the paper system that we currently use, with every child each having their own next step each week, which is planned for, observed and linked to areas of development. Excitingly, Blossom will enable each parent to view their child's own learning journey, online at any time. Also parents will be able to share, through the platform, their child's learning at home, posting notes and photos, with nursery. We hope that everyone will enjoy using Blossom, and that we will be able to share lots of photos and observations with you as they happen each week. For more information, please see the attached Parent Guide, from Blossom.

Collection at the end of the day

We are aware that collection time can often be very busy, especially towards the end of the day. If you would like feedback on your child's day, or a discussion with the team/key worker please ensure you arrive between 5.30-5.45pm Monday –Thursday and before 5.15 pm on Fridays. Nursery promptly closes at 5.45pm Monday-Friday and 5.15pm on Fridays and the staff would really appreciate your support in maintaining this. Thank you!

Staff training day

As discussed in previous newsletters and by separate letter, Babraham Nursery will be closed on **Friday 5th July 2019** for staff training. This is the one opportunity throughout the year when the whole staff team is able to get together for training purposes. Please note, no fees will be charged for this day.

Dates for your diary

Parent consultation evening: Tuesday 2nd July

Staff Training Day – Friday 5th July - Nursery Closed

Sports Day for Squirrels, Pelicans and Pre-school children – Wednesday 17th July in the afternoon

Annual Nursery BBQ – Saturday 14th September

Open evening – Wednesday 6th November

If you would like newsletters and updates sent to a different email address please contact me at alison.bishop@babraham.ac.uk and I will update our mailing list.

Kind regards,

Alison

Alison Bishop

Head of Nursery and Fun Pack

HOLIDAY/ABSENCE FORM

Please complete this form to register holidays or any other periods of absence.

Name of child Base Room

My child will be absent from.....to.....(inclusive)

Signed.....Name.....Date.....

Office use only

Base Room

Computer

Diary