



May 2021 Newsletter



Dear Parents,

We hope this edition of the Nursery newsletter finds you all well, if this is your first Newsletter we would like to take this time to welcome you to Nursery. We hope you are all enjoying the new recent spell of lovely weather, here at Nursery we have been spending time outdoors exploring creative activities, investigating in the woods and enjoying our snacks in the garden. Could we please remind all families to ensure that their children have appropriate light clothing, sun cream (or Nursery Suncream) and a hat, these help to keep us safe while being outdoors!

Nursery News

Ducklings have had some lovely walks in the village. The babies have also enjoyed water and gloop play, exploring these messy activities with their whole bodies. Many of the Ducklings also like to join in with action songs and games.

Caterpillars have been enjoying digging in their new gardening tyres, using spades and buckets to explore the soil. Over the coming weeks they will also be planting some herbs, using their senses to explore the taste and smell of these.

Red Butterflies continue to love exploring all different kinds of books and activities centred on the stories they have read. The wooded area continues to be a firm favourite. Recently, the children have been dancing along to ABBA and they frequently ask for it; they have the moves to go with it too!

Purple Butterflies have enjoyed a range of outside games such as 'what's the time Mr. Wolf?' and they have been playing with the parachute when outside too. The children have been discussing and exploring healthy eating, enjoying lots of dinosaur play, dressing up and continue to love independently accessing a variety of music and story CD's.

Explorers have recently been fascinated by where our food comes from and as part of this interest, they made their own butter for group time. They have also recently begun to learn about woodwork and have started to use some simple tools safely. Over the Summer, Explorers will have lots of events and the room will update you on arrangements for this year's leaver celebrations closer to the time.

Kitchen



The kitchen has now completed the new summer menu, we are excited for the children to try some new recipes and some of the fresh seasonal produce that is on our menu too. These menus have been carefully planned to ensure they fully encompass the 'Eat Better, Start Better Voluntary Guidelines for Early Years settings', developed by the

Children's Food Trust. A copy of the new menu is attached to the email alongside this letter and will come into effect shortly.

Covid-19

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued ongoing support of nursery, and for your assistance and support in following all of ours and the DfE's procedures and guidelines which are there to keep us all as safe as possible.

Please remember that **if a child/staff member has received a negative result, but had a temperature, they need to stay at home for 48 hours after the temperature has subsided** (like the sickness exclusion period).

Nursery Bubbles

Since the beginning of January staff have been working in very strict bubbles, with family members working together, including staff and their children. This approach has recently been reviewed by the Nursery Ramp-up Committee, including Health & Safety, having assessed the current rates of infection in our local area and in line with recent government guidance on easing restrictions, the decision has been made to slightly ease these bubbles.

From Monday 7th June, Nursery will transition to three larger staff bubbles. All children will remain in their strict room bubbles and staff will largely remain in their own rooms too, except for unavoidable staffing circumstances where they may support the other room within their bubble. As a result of this approach we are moving to three main bubbles across Nursery, which will mean some staffing changes to maintain qualification levels in rooms.

The three bubbles and their staff teams will be:

1. Ducklings and Caterpillars:

Ducklings:

Claire, every day except Thursdays, Alison Ducklings on Thursdays, Helen every morning, Nevena every afternoon, Sarah Monday-Wednesday and Georgina Thursday and Fridays

Caterpillars:

Zoe, Holly, Sara and Chloe Dover full time. Vikki, mornings, Michelle Miller, afternoons and Shamiller every afternoon with full days on Wednesdays and Fridays.

2. Red and Purple Butterflies:

Red Butterflies:

Eleni, Michelle Franklin and Polina full time. Katie Farr, every morning, Janet, every afternoons and full time on Fridays and Katie Chapman Monday – Thursdays.

Purple Butterflies:

Dee, Monday to Wednesday, Jo, Thursdays and Fridays, Xenia, James and Chloe Griggs full time. Ceri, Monday-Wednesday and Penny Wednesday to Friday.

3. Explorers

Chelsea, Isabel, Nicola and Hina full time.

Roving staff will continue to maintain the cleanliness and hygiene of Nursery and covering in rooms where necessary, ensuring 48 hours between any room changes.

Roving staff:

Val and Maria full time, Nikki, Monday to Thursdays mornings and Lizzie, Monday to Thursdays. Philippa, Tuesday to Thursdays, Nursery and office cover.

We will continue to ensure good ventilation procedures as well as utilising twice weekly Covid-19 lateral flow tests for all Nursery staff. Many of our staff have also now been vaccinated or will be shortly vaccinated. These measures and the slight relaxation of bubbles will continue to contribute to the safe functioning of Nursery and the continued quality of childcare provision.

General Infection Control Guidance

Babraham Nursery, in line with all childcare settings and schools, follows the guidance set by Public Health England with regards to general infection control. This guidance also states the period a child should be kept away from the setting should they become unwell. Your support in following these procedures is greatly appreciated, as this minimises the risk of spreading general infections in nursery to other children in nursery and to our staff team. Please follow the link for the Public Health England guidance

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/789369/Exclusion_table.pdf

Parking

Please remember to drive slowly and with care when arriving and leaving nursery, the car park can be very busy and considerate parking is appreciated. It's really important that pathways and pavements remain clear so that children and their families do not walk in the road. Thank you for your care and ongoing support with the nursery car parking.



Staffing

We would like to congratulate Hanna Saltmarsh and her partner Will on the birth of their second child, a baby boy. We hope to see them all at Nursery soon!

We would like to welcome some of our new staff members to Nursery, **Hina Aslam** joined us in May as a level 6 practitioner, who has previously worked in a variety of settings. **Maria Zaragoza** has joined us as a full time Nursery assistant who will be working with all ages across the setting. Maria is new to childcare but is very much looking forward to settling into Nursery life. **James O'Connor** has joined the Purple Butterflies team as a full time Nursery assistant. James is very keen to progress within the childcare profession, hoping to undertake a childcare qualification in the near future. We would also like to welcome **Michelle Miller**, who has joined the Caterpillar team as a part time Nursery Nurse. Michelle has previously jointly managed a Pre-school and has many years of childcare experience. The Children at Nursery have all very much enjoyed getting to know our new team members!

Virtual parents evening

We are currently looking into planning a virtual parents evening, that we hope to host towards the end of July. We are working with the institute to find the most appropriate software to enable us to do this and we will be in touch soon with any further information.

If you have any questions regarding your child's development or any concerns before this, please don't hesitate to speak to a team member at drop off or collection.

4 Children, supported by the Department for Education, have produced guidance for parents around learning and development within the Early Years Foundation Stage. The link to which can be accessed here:

https://www.foundationyears.org.uk/files/2015/09/4Children_ParentsGuide_Sept_2015v4WEB1.pdf

Dates for your diary

Friday 2nd July 2021: Nursery Closed for Staff Training Day (no fees will be charged for this day).

If you would like to contact me, give feedback or have a general discussion, please feel free to email using the address below. If you would like newsletters and updates to be sent to a different email address, please email alison.bishop@babraham.ac.uk and I will update our mailing list.



Kind regards,

Alison

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.....

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) & TRAVEL

WHERE ARE YOU TRAVELLING TO?

DUE TO GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS REGARDING TRAVEL, PLEASE BE AWARE THAT YOU AND YOUR CHILD WILL NEED TO SELF-ISOLATE ON RETURNING TO THE UK FROM A HOLIDAY ABROAD.

PLEASE REFER TO THE GOVERNMENT WEBSITE FOR THE LATEST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION ON TRAVEL AND ISOLATION RULES DURING THE PANDEMIC.

Office use only

Base Room Computer Diary