

Spring Newsletter 2018

Dear Parents,

I hope this newsletter finds you all well and that everyone had the opportunity to enjoy a long weekend together. If this is your first newsletter, we would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to Babraham Nursery. With lots of events coming up we would like to ensure you are all kept up to date; but first, we would like to reflect on events that have been happening over the last few weeks.

Nursery Disco

The Parents Sub-Committee held its disco on Saturday 24th February at Babraham School. We would like to thank everybody who came along and made it such a success; it was lovely to see all the children and babies having fun together with their families. We hope you enjoyed the event too!

Activities in nursery

We would like to thank you for your continued support in joining in with our various nursery activities. Most recently, the Pre-school children invited their families in for a special Mother's Day tea and the Caterpillars, Squirrels and Pelican rooms all held special events last week, to celebrate the spring season. The Caterpillars enjoyed a shared breakfast and story time; whilst the Squirrels Den and Pelican room joined together for an Easter egg hunt and story, followed by a shared tea.

Staffing News



We would like to welcome **Georgina Hamilton** and **Keilley Bishop** to our staff team. Georgina is a qualified nursery nurse and will be working full time in the Squirrels Den on a permanent basis. She has previously worked in another nursery before going travelling. Keilley will be covering Kayleigh Hoskyn's maternity leave, working each morning as a nursery nurse in the Caterpillar room. Keilley has a good deal of nursery experience and has also worked alongside the school nursing team and in other caring roles.

We also have a new staff member in the kitchen, **Lucy Van Wijk**. Faye and Gemma job share the Cook's position with Lucy and Nicki working alongside them both. We will shortly be changing our menu to reflect the season; when this is finalised we will send this to all parents via email. Our menu follows the Eat Better, Start Better guidelines and reflects the government's dietary recommendations for children aged between six months to five years.

We are pleased to be able to let you know that **Carla Hunt** (Nursery Nurse in Ducklings) gave birth to a baby boy named Kaiyon in February. Both are doing really well. Zoe Mason is covering Carla's maternity leave.

Nursery parent survey

We launched our nursery survey in March 2018 and would like to thank you for your valuable feedback and the ideas as to how we can further improve the provision that we provide. We would also like to thank you for your kind words, especially your overwhelmingly positive comments about our staff team.

To date we have received 53 responses, and would welcome any families who would like to participate to still do so, using the email link sent out via Ceeda. We will collate the responses in mid-April, so that all parents

have the opportunity to take part, and we will give feedback to families around the overall scores in each area and how we will use this information to improve our provision further. One helpful idea that we can already implement is adding a copy of the Health Protection guidelines for illnesses to our induction pack for new families, so that everyone is aware of national infection protocols that we follow at nursery before starting with us. I will also attach the most recent publication for reference for all families.

Outdoor area

We have recently been working on our outdoor space and the further development of our wooded area. We used the funds raised at the summer BBQ to purchase a new outdoor shelter, and have developed this further with a new kitchen one side, and a superhero dressing up area the other. The children are really enjoying zooming along on their bikes dressed up as Spiderman and Batman with capes and masks!

We are also building on our outdoor resources in both the woods and the main garden, bringing in new ideas for spring and further developing our mud kitchen in the woods. The children have been making dens in the space with big pegs and looking for insects with our magnifying glasses.

Our next focus will be our pollytunnel; where the children will begin to plant and grow fruit and vegetables over the spring and summer months. Hopefully we will have lots of fruit and vegetables for cooking over the coming months!

Staff training day

As previously mentioned, Babraham Nursery will be closed on **Friday 6th July 2018** for staff training. This is the one opportunity throughout the year when the whole staff team is able to get together for training purposes. Last year we sourced age specific training in the morning and we all took part in a Paediatric refresher course in the afternoon. We place a high importance on formal training and continual professional development of our staff team and individual staff attend training sessions throughout the year to build on their knowledge. **NO FEES WILL BE CHARGED FOR THIS DAY.**

Dragon Hunt

The Dragon Hunt, organised by the Parent Sub-Committee, will be taking place on **Saturday 21st April** in the morning, here at the nursery. All children are invited to attend with their parents; we will be decorating bags and searching for dragons in the woods. More details can be found on the attached poster.



CI Photography

CI Photography will be visiting the nursery on **Wednesday 9th May** in the morning to take group photographs of all the children. Any children who do not usually attend on this day are very welcome to come in for the photographs. More information and timings will be available closer to the date.

Door access to the Squirrels den and Pelican rooms

If your child is in the Squirrels Den or Pelican room, you will no doubt be aware that our new-shared bathroom and conservatory area is now completed and fully operational. Therefore, the original access route to the Squirrels Den and Pelican room, through the main entrance to nursery, is again open for all our families to use. We would like to encourage families in the downstairs rooms to use the main entrance into and out of nursery each day, through the main reception area to minimise congestion, as we are aware that the Squirrels

den can become particularly busy at key times. We will be revising the card access levels for families over the next two weeks with security.



Calpol

At nursery we will give medicine such as Calpol during the day if there is a need for this, for instance if a child has a high temperature or is teething. We would be really grateful if you are signing a form in the morning to give such medication (e.g. Calpol, Nurofen or similar) that you ensure that your child has their own medicine with them or already at nursery. Nursery does have a bottle of Calpol, but this is for emergency rather than daily use. Your help would be very much appreciated!

Dates for your diary

Dragon Hunt – Saturday 21st April

Consultation Evening – Tuesday 26th June

Staff Training Day – Friday 6th July - Nursery Closed

Sports Day for Squirrels, Pelicans and Pre-school children – Friday 13th July in the afternoon

Open evening – Wednesday 7th 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