



Chichester
Nursery School

01243 642959
March/April 2018

Update

Dear Parents and Carers,

In this Update you will find information on:

- World Book Day
- Easter holiday childcare
- Parent consultations
- Sport Relief Fun Walks
- Ducklings
- Easter Celebration
- Mobile phones
- Allergy information
- Healthy eating
- Clothes contributions
- Retracting of permissions
- Staff news
- Summer Fair
- Key dates



World Book Day

A big thank you to everyone who came into Nursery as their favourite nursery rhyme character on World Book Day. It was lovely to see so many Little Bo Peeps, Incy Wincey Spiders and Old Macdonalds, to name just a few. Your contributions raised £77.29 and this will be put towards new books for Nursery School and the 'Up to 3s'. The day highlighted the important role nursery rhymes play in children's early literacy development, especially in introducing them to the structure of stories and the rhythm and rhyme of language. So thank you again for putting together such marvellous costumes and donating so generously.

Easter Holiday Childcare

Pre-booked holiday childcare will be available as usual during the Easter holidays – please make sure that your form is in before 16th March to guarantee that your child has a place on the day/days that you want it.

Parent consultations

Parent consultations for Nursery School children will take place during the week beginning Monday 19th March. All keyworkers will have evening appointments available on Wednesday 21st March, and some will have other times available during that week as well.

These will be the last formal consultations of the school year and provide an opportunity to review your child's progress and discuss their new "next steps" targets.

For those children who are moving on to primary school at the end of the Summer, it will also be an opportunity to start the ball rolling for the smooth transition to their reception class and for parents to discuss any concerns that they might have about this coming change.

Please see your child's keyworker to make an appointment. Consultations for Up to 3s' children will take place during the Summer.

Sport Relief Walks

We are looking forward to our Sport Relief Walks, which will take place during Nursery School group times (at 11.30 a.m. and 3.15 p.m.) on Wednesday 21st March. We would like to invite all those parents who can manage it, to come into Nursery and walk with their child.

The idea is that everybody will complete a lap of Portfield playing field, which will feature certain obstacles to add interest along the way! Please send your child to Nursery wearing "sporty" clothes, in

recognition of the day, and a contribution to our Sport Relief bucket would also be very welcome.

Ducklings

Those of you that are familiar with the cycle of the Nursery year will probably be wondering when our eggs/chicks are due to arrive. In a change of tack this year, we have decided to hatch ducklings instead! We are looking forward enormously to them arriving on Monday 14th May – in egg form initially of course – and look forward to welcoming ducklings soon after that!

The eggs and ducklings will be available for everybody to see in an incubator outside the Headteacher's office. We just need to make sure that the incubator remains firmly closed until they have not only hatched, but also grown a bit.

Please use the paper speech bubbles to tell us what you think about our new ducklings and again a big thank you to Idz, in the Up to 3s' Nursery, who has agreed to take on the role of "Mother Duck".

It is our intention to take the ducklings to a nearby farm where they can enjoy a long and happy life, after their time with us.

Easter Celebrations

It might not seem like it in view of the very cold and snowy weather we have had recently, but Easter is on its way and our Nursery School Easter Celebrations will take place on Wednesday 28th March.

Children will parade round the Nursery Garden in their Easter bonnets, roll decorated eggs and then enjoy an Easter egg hunt in the garden. The Friends of Chichester Nursery School will be holding a cake sale in the Café area that day, so refreshments will also be available.

Children arrive in Nursery at the normal time on this day, to be joined by parents at either 11.00 am for morning and beginning of the week C group parents, or 2.00 pm for afternoon and end of the week D group parents. Parents of children who attend all day every day (our 30 hour Free entitlement parents) can choose to attend either the morning or afternoon parade – just let you child's keyworker know which you have chosen.

Materials for making Easter hats and bonnets will be available from the Nursery School lobby soon - please take only what you need so there is enough to go round.

So just to recap, children will need to come into Nursery on Wednesday 28th March with:

- **An Easter hat or bonnet**
- **A decorated, named, hard-boiled egg for rolling**

The Up to 3s' Nursery will have their own informal Easter celebrations that week - without parents, as this can upset the children.

Mobile phones

Could I remind parents that, for the protection of all our children, mobile phones are not to be used in the Up to 3s' Nursery or Nursery School, so please finish your conversation in the lobby area before you go in to collect your child.

Please could you also remember that the same rules apply to the Nursery car park as on the open road and on no account are mobile phones to be used by parents when driving.

Allergy information

If you wish to update the allergy information that we hold about your child, please call into the office and talk to Sue. She will then ensure that any relevant documentation is changed and that the information is passed on to your child's keyworker, so that they can change the information on noticeboards in Nursery.

We think that this is the safest way of doing things, because our keyworkers are very busy people, particularly in the “hurly-burly” of the nursery drop-off, and information passed to them at these times can be misheard or forgotten.

Healthy Eating

Recent research has shown that children’s eating habits are set at a very young age and that a child that is overweight at the age of 5 is likely to stay that way for the rest of their life – with all the medical issues that this can often bring.

In Nursery we try to give children a balanced diet in terms of the snacks we offer – not avoiding sweet treats such as cakes and jam tarts altogether, but making sure that healthier choices with less sugar and a lower fat content form the larger part of our snack menu.

We also have a breakfast bar, offering cereal and toast, for children who have not had time for breakfast at home or need a small top-up. This is a healthier way for children to start their day than eating crisps and chocolate from Tesco – it also has the advantage of saving you money too!

Clothes contributions

We are very grateful to the many parents who make clothes contributions to us. We use these as spare clothes when children have toileting or other accidents in Nursery. However, the amount of carrier bags full that are sometimes donated, presents quite a problem for us in terms of sorting and storing. Could I please ask parents to just donate items in response to the request notices that we put up from time to time asking for specific items.

Retracting of permissions

When children start Nursery most parents give various “permissions” for them to:

- Have their photograph taken and used in different ways,
- Go on small trips out of Nursery,
- Have certain medicines, such as Calpol and Piriton, administered should they need it
- Be given first aid
- Have their clothes changed if they have a toileting accident or get wet or messy

I just want to remind you that it is your right to withdraw your permission for any of the above, at any time. If you wish to do so, please pop into the office and talk to Sue. She will then update our records and pass the information on to your child’s keyworker and anyone else who needs to know.

Staff News

We are very sad to be saying “goodbye” to Holly Maybee, a Nursery Assistant in the Up to 3s’ Nursery. Holly has worked with us since September, but before that, while she was at University, she worked for the West Wittering Estate. Sadly for us they have now offered Holly the post of Assistant Estate Manager. We are delighted that Holly has secured such a significant post but will miss her and thank her for all her hard work with us.

Summer Fair

Finally, looking well ahead, our Summer Fair will take place on Friday 15th June from 5 pm to 7 pm and it is our intention that, as ever, it will be an event to be remembered. Our Friends of Chichester Nursery School will be planning the fayre, but they will need your help, either to run stalls or to come and support us on the night, so please “save the date” and put it in your diary now!!

As this is the last newsletter before the holiday, we would like to wish all our children and families a very
Happy Easter!



Dates for your diary	
Wed 14 th March	Taster session for children starting Nursery School in the Summer Term
Fri 16 th March	Final day for booking Easter holiday childcare
Wed 21 st March	Sport Relief Fun Walks at 11.30 and 3.15 (please come in and walk with your child)
Wed 21 st March	Nursery School Consultation Evening (other appointments available that week)
Wed 28 th March	Easter celebrations at 11.00 a.m. and 2.00 p.m. (see earlier in Newsletter)
Thursday 29 th March	End of term for Nursery School children
Friday 30 th March to Monday 2 nd April inclusive	Up to 3s' Nursery closed for Easter weekend
Monday 16 th April	First Day of Summer term for Nursery School children
Mon 14 th May	Eggs, and hopefully ducklings, arrive this week!!!
Mon 28 th May to Fri 1st June inclusive	Nursery School Half-term
Tue 24 th July	Leavers' Ceremony and last day of term for Nursery School children (pre-booked care available over holiday period)

Mon 27 th to Friday 31 st August inclusive	Summer shut-down week – Up to 3s' Nursery closed
Mon 3 rd September	Up to 3s' and Nursery School closed for Inset day
Tue 4 th September	Additional closure date for Nursery School to allow staff to pay home visits to new starters. Up to 3s' Nursery open
Wed 5 th September	First day of Autumn term for Nursery School children