



Chichester
Nursery School

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May/June/July

Newsletters

Dear Parents and Carers,

The Summer Term is underway and as always there is much to look forward to.

We have recently had our visit from the Rainbow Theatre, acting out some of our favourite Traditional Tales. We are looking forward to a visit from some Firefighters, school visits and, of course, our annual Summer Fair. The Nursery garden is very popular at this time of year and it is always wonderful to see children busy mixing sand and water and enjoying a good paddle!

This is a particularly busy term for our Over 3s' Keyworkers, who are preparing for their children going up to Primary School. This means they will be having additional time out of Nursery to write the reports that you and schools will receive.

To all new families, we hope you feel very welcome here and that you and your children soon feel very much part of the "Chichester Nursery Family".

In this Newsletter you will find information on:

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Staffing Updates

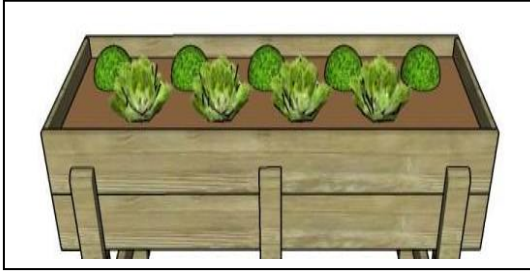
We have lots of staffing news for you, firstly, a few goodbyes: many of you will know Paula, who supported some of our SEN children in Nursery School. We said goodbye to her at the end of April, as she secured a permanent post at The Free School. We wish her all the best. Secondly, we will soon be saying goodbye to Hazel Peacock, who has been a wonderful member of Bank Staff, working in both sides of the Nursery. Hazel has been working with us whilst she finished her degree and now she will sadly be going back home to Northern Ireland. We have really benefitted from Hazel's enthusiasm and experience and will miss her greatly!

The Up to 3s' have a couple of temporary goodbyes to say. I'm sure you will have all noticed that our lovely Sophie Baynes, "Little Soph", as we affectionately call her, has been expanding rather a lot recently and is not so little anymore!! Sophie will be starting her maternity leave at the beginning of June and we can't wait for news of her new baby when it comes! Whilst she is away, we are delighted to announce that Kirsty Scott will be promoted to the role of Nursery Nurse and will be a wonderful Keyworker to Yellow Group in Sophie's absence – Congratulations Kirsty!

Sarah Melville, who has worked in both the Up to 3s' and Over 3s' has an exciting Summer ahead, as she leaves us in a few weeks to go and work at "Camp America". We are very jealous and look forward to hearing all her stories when she returns in the Autumn as Bank Staff.

So now on to the new starters...replacing Paula for the remainder of the Summer Term in Nursery School will be Lorna Butkus, who demonstrated a huge experience in supporting young children with additional needs. She will be joining us after half term and we hope she will settle in quickly. Also, in Nursery School, we are excited to have Chloe Meigh join our team for the Summer term as an extra member of staff in our busiest term. This is the post we are fundraising for with our 10K run, but more about that later....

Finally, we have a new member of staff joining our Up to 3s' team. Samantha Levy is joining us from a Nursery in North London after half term. She has a great deal of experience and is looking forward to being down near the sea and joining our Nursery. She will be the Nursery Assistant supporting Red Group. We are looking forward to welcoming all our new staff and hope they soon feel part of the team.



Planters

Now the Summer is here we are all starting to pay attention to what's growing outside. If you are keen to do a little gardening with your child you could sign up to sponsor a planter for a term. You choose and supply the plants to go in the planters and we put your names on a sign in your chosen planter. We provide a waterbutt, watering cans and some gardening tools, which families can borrow to tend to their planter (an ideal activity for the waiting time before sessions or after Nursery!) Thanks to those who have adopted one so far, they really brighten up the entrance around Nursery!

Please see Sue in the office to sign up for your planter.

Summer Fair

It isn't long now until our Summer Fair. Our Fair will take place on **Saturday 22nd June** this year between 11am and 2pm and to allow more space we will be holding it on Portfield School Field. Our "Friends of Chichester Nursery School" are busy planning the fair, but they will need your help, either to run stalls, donate items or to come and support us on the day, so please "save the date" and put it in your diary now!!



Sorry, I'm late.

Prompt Pick-Ups

We have a request on behalf of our Up to 3s' staff that parents pick up promptly, particularly at the end of the day and on Wednesdays. The Up to 3s' staff work really long hours and often stay late giving feedback to parents and carers about their children. On a Wednesday, they have a staff meeting that needs to start as soon after 5pm as possible, but they are finding that parents are collecting late, or just on the dot of 5pm and then wanting long feedback sessions. This has meant that the staff cannot start their meeting until quarter or twenty past 5 sometimes, meaning that they have less time for important training and discussions about the children. Please remember that late charges apply for parents who collect late.

Summer is here!!!

The warm weather is here at last and we need to make sure that all our children are safe in the sun. Please make sure your child is well prepared for the sun when you bring them into Nursery and bear in mind that even cloudy days have the potential to turn into sunny ones.





Sun hats:

We do have some Nursery sun hats but not enough for everyone and in any case children often feel happier wearing their own. If your child is bringing their own hat into Nursery, please do make sure it is clearly named.



Sun cream:

We expect parents of children in Nursery School to apply sun cream at home before bringing them to school in the morning or afternoon. For children who are here all day we strongly advise the use of a brand that lasts all day – there are now quite a few types on the market, available from Boots and other well-known chemists.

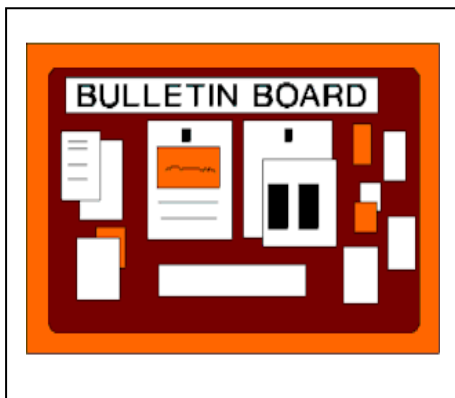
For children in our Up to 3s' Nursery, we also expect children arriving in the morning or afternoon to have had high factor sun cream applied at home. If they are staying all day we will re-apply our own Factor 50 sun cream at lunchtime.



Sandals:

These are lovely for warm weather but unfortunately are not suitable for the rough and tumble of the Nursery Garden, where toes can easily be stubbed or have things dropped on them. We ask all our parents to send their children to Nursery in closed toe shoes – trainers, doodles and crocs are all good options.

I would like to reassure parents that staff are very aware of the need to keep children safe in the sun. They watch carefully for signs that children are getting too hot and send them inside to cool down if necessary. We also make sure that cool water is in plentiful supply, both inside and outside.

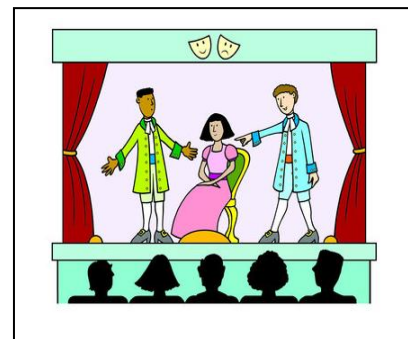


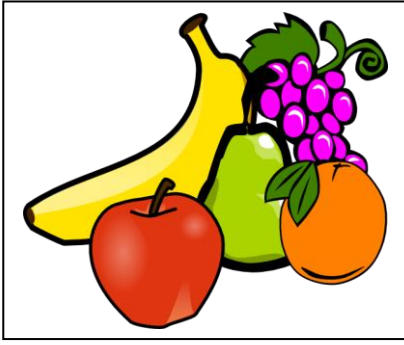
Adventurers and Up to 3s' Information Boards

Charlotte has created information for parents and carers of the “Adventurers” (those who attend Breakfast, lunch or tea provision in Nursery school) and the Up to 3s’ parents and carers. She has created a noticeboard at the entrance to the Up to 3s’ and one in the Rainbow Room for the Adventurers, which will tell you important information, such as mealtime menus. Staffing and other notices. Do take a look!

Rainbow Theatre

We had a wonderful visit from the Rainbow Theatre (a small, travelling theatre company) again this year. The children enjoyed performances of some of our favourite Traditional Tales and had a great time getting involved with the performances. We hope they tell you all about it!



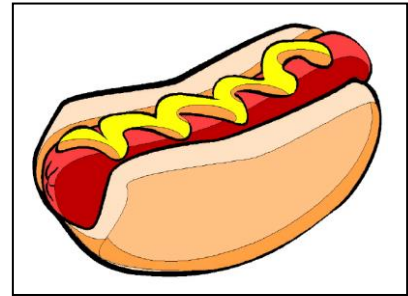


Thanks for Fruit

We'd like to say thank you to all our parents/carers and children who bring fruit each week. The children are really proud to talk about and share the fruit they have brought in with their friends at Grouptime.

Sizzling Sausage Weekend

As you will all know, our Up to 3s' staff ran the "Sizzling Sausage" hot dog sale at Homebase in February. This



was part of our fundraising towards a new climbing frame in the Up to 3s' garden. Those of you who missed it or fancy another chance to have one of our delicious hot dogs will be pleased to know we will be doing another weekend on 13th and 14th July. We look forward to seeing lots of you pop by and support us once again!



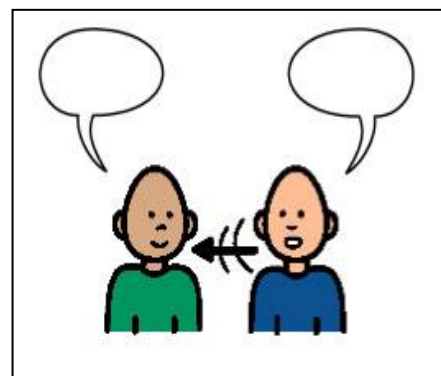
Fire Evacuation

My thanks goes to all the parents who experienced our recent "Fire Evacuation". As you will recall, this was at drop off time at the beginning of the afternoon session and, although we know it caused some inconvenience for some parents, we deliberately chose this time, as we wanted to test the logistics of parents and carers dropping off and all the problems that could

come up at that time of the day. As it happens, it went really smoothly and we thank you all so much for your cooperation. Please could we just ask that, unless you really have to, you don't leave buggies or scooters in the entrance to the building, between the double doors. This is because it makes it very difficult to get to the fire panel, which is the first thing that needs to be checked in a fire. If you have no option but to leave a buggy or scooter there, please ensure that there is a clear path left to the fire panel. Many thanks.

SSC

I am incredibly excited to announce that in September we will be gaining a Special Support Centre as part of our provision. This will be for 8 children in the morning and 8 children in the afternoon who have Speech, Language and Social Communication difficulties. In many ways, this won't bring many changes to what we already do as we already support many children with these difficulties and children who attend this part of our provision will still integrate fully in to the Nursery School. However, the difference is that we will have a Speech and Language Therapist on site for several sessions each week and will support staff to further develop our skills in supporting children's Social Communication skills. Do come and talk to me if you have any questions about this.



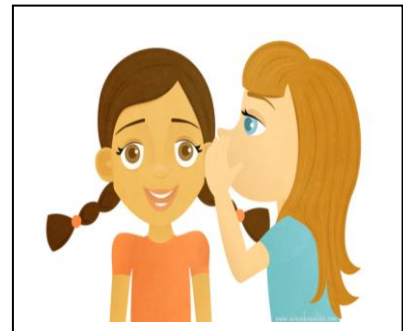


Charges for Holidays and Other Absences

There have been one or two parents recently who have been unaware of our policy regarding Nursery fees for breakfasts, lunches, teas and other sessions which are usually paid for when families go on holiday or whose children do not attend for other reasons, including illness. Please note that we do continue to charge for these sessions, whatever the reason for the absence, as we still have to pay the staff whether or not your child attends. You can find this in our "Attendance Policy" on our website. Please speak to me or Clare if you want to discuss this further.

Recommend a Friend

As we contemplate all the children who will be leaving us and start to look at filling places for September, we are very aware that many of you



recommend us to friends or colleagues. As a way of thanking parents for this (and as a bit of Marketing) we would like to offer a free Nursery session to all parents who recommend us to a friend, relative or colleague, who then subsequently takes up a place with us for their child. For parents whose children attend 8-6pm each day, we will discount the cost of a session from your bill. Do spread the word!

Summer Holiday Care Deadline

Parents of Nursery School children who want to book holiday care for the Summer Holidays are reminded that forms need to be in by **Monday 24th June**.



Reports

As I mentioned at the beginning of the Newsletter you may notice that some keyworkers have been out of Nursery School more than usual recently – this is because they are writing reports for their children that will be leaving to go to school. If your child is leaving us at the end of this term, you will receive their final report from their Keyworker in the first week of July.

Although the writing of so many reports is quite a time consuming task for keyworkers, it is always such a pleasure to see how much progress children have made during their time with us and we know we only play a small part in these achievements, as it is you, their parents and carers who have the biggest role in their development.

We hope you are pleased with your child's report when you get it but if you have any queries please talk to me, Clare or your child's Keyworker.

Up to 3s' children also have reports, but these are now written just after their second birthday.



Bognor 10K Fundraising Event

As many of you know on 19th May I will be running in the Bognor 10K Race with Charlotte Radford (one of our Governors and a parent in the Nursery). Sadly, due to ill-health Julie Oldman (another Nursery Parent) is now unable to take part but instead has set herself the task of walking 10K around Chichester each week leading up to the race. Julie thought it would make us even more worth sponsoring if we were to wear bright pink tutus for the race, so that is what we are doing. I have also ordered us Chichester Nursery School t-shirts so I'm sure we'll look great on the day! We are doing this because we desperately need another member of staff in Nursery School for the Summer term, but with our School budget being cut even further this year we are struggling to make ends meet, and certainly can't afford the cost of another staff member. So we decided to raise the money ourselves! I mentioned earlier that Chloe Meigh has been appointed to this role for the rest of the Summer Term and is already proving invaluable; we just need to raise the money now, so please sponsor us with whatever amount you can at: <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/chicheste rnurseryschool>

Families Aloud!

We are looking forward to the final Families Aloud of the year on **Sunday 9th June**.



We hope you have enjoyed those that have happened already this year. We have loved seeing familiar faces from the past and the chance to get to know our current families better.

If you haven't been before this is your opportunity to come and play in Nursery with your child/children (older and younger siblings are very welcome too, as are grandparents, cousins and friends!) You will be able to see the kind of things your child gets up to during their days in Nursery, as well as get to know other parents.

As this will be our Summer Families Aloud, we thought we would do things a little differently and ask families to **bring a picnic and a rug** and we will enjoy having a picnic lunch together in the garden.

We hope to see lots of you there!





Leavers' Celebrations

This is the sad bit - on Tuesday 23rd July we will be saying goodbye to those children leaving to go to Primary Schools in September. Parents and carers of leavers are warmly invited to join us for this the celebration as follows:

Morning Ceremony at 11 am for:

- Morning children in Red and Blue groups
- Orange group morning
- Green Group children
- Eve's Yellow D Group children

Afternoon Ceremony at 2 pm for:

- Afternoon children in Blue and Red groups
- Orange Group afternoon
- Angie's Yellow C Group children
- Purple Group children

For Orange Group children who do 30 hours or split week places, please speak to your child's keyworker about which session you would like to attend.

(This is all quite complicated I know, so please talk to your child's keyworker if you need clarification.)

On the day we will gather together outside, (weather permitting!), where all children leaving the school will be given one of our special teddies as a parting gift. Parents are then invited to join their

child's Group Time where they will be presented with their portfolio and will have some time to look through it with their child.

At the end of the celebrations parents may wish to take their children home, however the Nursery sessions will run as normal for those families needing additional childcare.

Nursery sessions start at the normal time on this day, with parents returning for the Leavers' Ceremony. Do come armed with tissues as this is always an emotional day!



I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our parents and carers for their support this year, especially in this, my first year as Headteacher. I wish you all a very Happy Summer!

If you are leaving us, please do keep in touch and come back and visit!

Ruth

Dates for Your Diary

Sun 19th May	Bognor 10K Fundraising Event Please support us by donating through our justgiving account
Weds 24 th May	Firefighters Visiting Nursery
Mon 27 th May-Fri 31 st May	NURSERY SCHOOL HALF TERM Pre-booked daycare only for all children plus Adventurers (15 hour stretched option)
Mon 3 rd June	Term Restarts after Half Term
Sun 9 th June	Families Aloud (Bring a picnic!) 10-12
Sat 22 nd June	Nursery Summer Fair 11-2
W/B 5 th July	School Reports Out for Leavers
Tues 23 rd July	Last day of Term & Leavers' Ceremonies
Mon 26 th - Fri 30 th Aug	Nursery shutdown week. Whole of Nursery (Up to 3s' and Over 3s') closed!
Mon 2 nd Sept	Nursery School & Up to 3s' closed for INSET Training
Tues 3 rd Sept	Nursery School closed for Home Visits. Up to 3s' and Care for Adventurers open
Weds 4 th Sept	Term restarts for all Nursery School Children
Mon 4th & Tues 5th Nov	Nursery School & Up to 3s' closed for First Aid INSET Training