



Chichester
Nursery School

01243 642959

November/December 2021

News letter

Dear Parents and Carers,

The nights are getting dark earlier and the days are getting colder and we are all starting to think about the 'C' word!!

The build up to Christmas is normally one of the most exciting times in Nursery and we are looking forward to sharing some wonderful 'Christmassy' experiences with the children that they will remember... more about all of that later!

In this Newsletter you will find information on:

- Staffing Updates
- Food Bank Vouchers
- Grounds Morning
- Socks
- Christmas Raffle
- 'Ditch the Dummy!'
- Parent Workshops



- Children in Need
- Keep Us Up to Date
- Help Us Keep You Up to Date
- Parent Consultations
- Join our Governors
- Final INSET Day
- THE CHRISTMAS SECTION, to include:
 - Christmas Cards
 - Nursery Christmas lunch
 - Christmas Jumper day
 - Christmas present wrapping
 - Nursery School Christmas party
 - Up to 3s' Christmas celebrations
- Opening Dates Over the Christmas and New Year Period
- Dates for your Diary (**including closure dates**)

Staffing Updates

We are very sad to have recently said goodbye to our lovely Sarah Davis, from the Up to 3s'. Sarah has been part of our team for several years now, but is going to have a change of direction and enjoy working from home for now, with her gorgeous puppy! I'm sure you will all join me in thanking Sarah for her hard work and loyalty over the years. We will miss her greatly!



On to some positive news – we are excited to be welcoming back two former members of staff: firstly, Daisy Tipping, who is returning to work for us from December, as a 1:1 SEN Support Assistant and Penny Dean, who is undertaking a similar role - we are so delighted to have them back in our team!

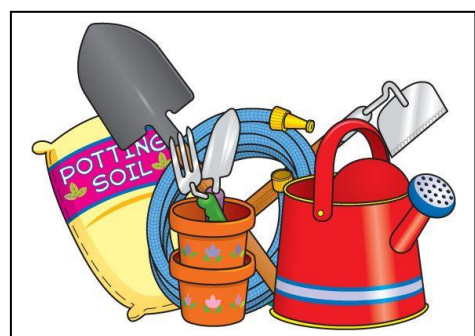


Food Bank Vouchers

We know how difficult things are for families at the moment and with Christmas coming up, many families are finding it even harder to manage than ever. If you do need an extra bit of help at the moment, do let us know and we can provide foodbank vouchers. You can email your child's Keyworker, message the Facebook page or catch me, Clare, or Emma.

Grounds Morning

We are so lucky to have such a great big garden for our children to play and learn in, however, it takes a lot of upkeep and at the moment needs a bit of TLC to make it look as good as it can for our children. I am so grateful to staff who gave up time in their half term holiday to do some work in the garden, but we need a few more hands so we have decided to hold a Grounds Morning on **Saturday 20th November** from 9am-12pm. Please



red@chichesternursery.org



Socks

Children often need a change of socks rather than a complete outfit change when they come in from playing in the garden and we get through them at an alarming rate.

very grateful. You can also help by putting extra spare socks in your child's bag.

Christmas Raffle

We are working hard to try and raise money to develop a calming Sensory Garden next to the Rainbow Room. As you can imagine, this is quite an expensive project so this will be the focus of our fundraising this year. The first of our fundraising events will be a Christmas raffle, where you can win a hamper full of Christmas goodies for the whole family.



Look out for tickets going on sale around the beginning of December.

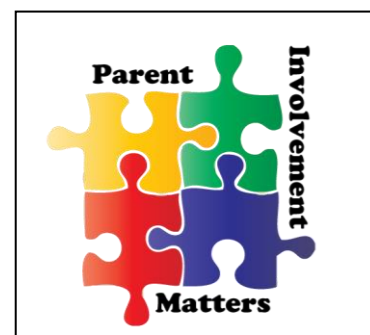


‘Ditch the Dummy!’

At Chichester Nursery School we are very skilled at supporting children who have speech and language difficulties and delays – something that is becoming more and more common in the children we teach. We are aware that many children who are talking still come to Nursery with a dummy, which we know can be a lovely comfort for children but it can be really detrimental to their speech and language development. We therefore ask that children (not babies) do not have a dummy when they are coming to and from Nursery. There are many top tips for reducing and giving up dummy usage, which any of our staff would be happy to share with you. We also promote a ‘Books for Dummies’ scheme, where your child can bring their dummies to Nursery and exchange them for a book of their choice. Just ask your child’s Keyworker!

Parent Workshops

We all know parenting isn’t easy! Many of you chat to us for advice/tips about handling a range of different situations and we all know that the best outcomes for



children occur when home and Nursery work together. We have put together some of our 'top tips' and advice in the form of some 'Parent Workshops', which we had hoped to launch last year, but couldn't go ahead with, due to Covid.

The first of the topics we will be covering include:

- *Toileting workshop (to be held on 16th November)*
- *'Top Tips for an Easier Life*
- *Learning Through Play*
- *Supporting Children's Language & Attention Skills'*

These will be freely available for all parents/carers to access and will also provide the opportunity to ask questions and share tips with other parents.

Keep your eyes peeled on Facebook and our ParentApp for more information and dates in the Spring...



Children in Need

BBC Children in Need takes place on **Friday 19th November 2021.**

Please can children come to Nursery wearing something spotty and bring a donation to help vulnerable children across the UK.

Keep Us Up to Date

Sometimes we find parents have changed their phone number, address or other contact details but don't remember to update us. This can cause us problems if we are trying to get in touch with you, particularly if your child is unwell. Please let your child's Keyworker know or email office@chichesternursery.org if any of your contact details have changed. Thank you.



Help Us to Keep You Up to Date!

The main way we communicate information about events and message to parents is via our Facebook page and our ParentApp.

We use Facebook and Instagram to share lovely photos of the things your children get up to in Nursery, as well as important information. Our ParentApp is a handy way to access reminders about dates, see INSET days and electronic copies of our Newsletter and other letters.



Just download "Our Schools App" and select "**Chichester Nursery**" (not "Chichester Nursery Children & Family Centre")

Parent Consultations

These are a chance to catch up with your child's Keyworker and hear about their progress in Nursery or discuss how they are settling.



We are offering these in person for parents/carers who are able to arrange childcare or over the phone, if this is easier. Sign up for a slot on **Wednesday 17th November (and 24th of November too for the Up to 3s')**. We hope that you find this a valuable opportunity to talk about your child and be part of their educational journey in Nursery.



Join our Governors

Would you like to have a say in how our Nursery School is run and help make it even better?

We have an opportunity for up to 3 new Parent Governors to join our friendly Governing Body.

We meet once a term, plus a termly Committee Meeting to consider the quality of education that the children are receiving, review key policies and procedures, discuss finance and staffing matters and ensure high standards of health and safety. Governors also visit Nursery School regularly (their favourite part!)

No experience necessary, just a desire to support the Nursery School and the time to undertake some reading before each meeting. Speak to me if you are interested or contact Sophie, our Chair of Governors s.elsdon@chichesternursery.org



Final INSET Day

Our final INSET Day of the School year will take place on **Tuesday 3rd May 2022**, where we will be undertaking fire extinguisher and fire safety training. Please note, the entire Nursery will be closed on this date.

C H R I S T M A S



Here comes the Christmas section... this will cover everything you need to know about our Christmas events and activities:



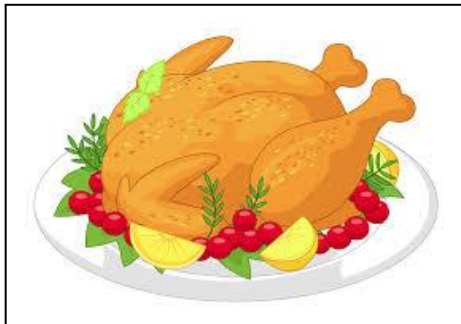
Christmas Cards

From **Wednesday 1st December** our Christmas post boxes will be placed in the foyer, near the entrance to Nursery School and Up to 3s'. Children can post cards for their



friends which will be collected each day and given out to the children to take home.

Please note, to ensure children are still able to receive all their cards before the end of term, **last posting dates for Christmas will be Wednesday 15th December**



Nursery Christmas Lunch

For children that normally stay for lunch, we will be having a 'Christmas Dinner' for them on **Wednesday 15th December.** There is nothing

extra parents or carers need to do for this. We will make the occasion special for them with decorated tables and crackers.

Christmas Jumper Day

We will be celebrating Christmas Jumper Day a few days early, on **Wednesday 8th December,** as this gives most children the chance to participate in this



popular occasion. Children can come in to Nursery wearing their Christmas Jumpers and make a contribution in buckets that will be placed outside Nursery to the 'Save the Children' fund, which helps support needy children around the world. Don't worry if you haven't got a Christmas jumper just decorate an old jumper with Christmassy bits and pieces for a jumper that will be utterly unique!



Christmas Present Wrapping

If you think wrapping Christmas presents for your family is a lot of wrapping, can you imagine what it's like wrapping presents for ALL the Nursery School children?!! However, over the years we have learned that many hands make light work of this task and so we would love to have some helping hands in **the week beginning 29th November**. Come and speak to Ruth, Clare or Emma if you are able to spare some time to help. Tea and biscuits provided for all helpers!

Nursery School Christmas Party

This will take place on the morning of **Friday 17th December**, the last day of term.



Children will take part in games, dancing and will enjoy a special 'play' put on by our talented staff members, followed by a party lunch. We also believe Father Christmas may stop by to deliver some presents!

*As you can imagine, a 3 hour session is too long for a party, so Nursery on the 17th will start later than usual that day, at **10.00 a.m***

Please do not bring your child to Nursery until 10 am when the party starts!

If this presents a problem for working parents, please inform your child's key worker as soon as possible. The Nursery will make arrangements for exceptional cases. Refunds for children who normally attend a breakfast session on that day will be made in January.

We would be grateful for contributions of party food for the Christmas party. Lists will be displayed on the Nursery doors nearer the time. Please sign up if you can!



Up to 3s' Christmas Celebrations

The Up to 3s' all attend on different days so we have planned a whole week of Christmassy activities, with baking and Christmas decoration making, Christmas songs, delicious festive snacks and some Christmas games, such as pass the parcel. This will mean that every child, no matter what day they attend will be sure to experience some Christmas fun in Nursery!

Opening Days Over the Christmas and New Year Period

Christmas & New Year closures are always a little complicated, so do look closely at the diary over the page.

We wish all our children and their families a very Happy Christmas and New Year!



Dates for Your Diary

Weds 17 th November	<u>Parent Consultations</u> Meet with your child's Keyworker to find out about their progress (in person or over the phone) – no children please
Fri 19 th November	<u>Children in Need</u> Come to Nursery wearing something spotty and bring a donation for this wonderful appeal
Sat 20 th November	<u>Grounds Morning</u> Volunteers needed to help us tidy up the Nursery garden. Cuppa and biscuits provided!
Weds 24 th November	<u>Additional Up to 3s' Consultations</u> Second date for Parent Consultations for Up to 3s' children
W/b 29 th November	<u>Volunteers in to do Christmas Wrapping</u> Help us wrap all the children's Christmas presents!

Weds 1 st December	<u>Christmas Postbox Out</u> Postbox available for all children to post cards to their friends
Weds 8 th December	<u>Christmas Jumper Day</u> Wear your favourite Christmas jumper or decorate your own and bring a donation for Save the Children
Weds 15 th December	<u>Last Day for Christmas Card Posting!!</u>
Weds 15 th December	<u>Christmas Dinner for Lunchtime Children</u>
Fri 17 th December	<u>Nursery School Christmas Party</u> PLEASE DO NOT BRING CHILDREN UNTIL 10am
Fri 17 th December	<u>Last Day of Term for Nursery School Children and Up to 3s' funded children</u>
Thurs 23 rd December	<u>Up to 3s' Last Day before Christmas break</u>
Fri 24 th December – Fri 31 st December	<u>NURSERY CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS</u>
Mon 3 rd January	UK Bank Holiday – Nursery Closed
Tues 4 th January	Nursery School & Up to 3s' closed for INSET Training
Weds 5 th January	<u>Nursery School Closed for Home Visits</u> (Up to 3s' Nursery Open only, including for Funded children)
Thurs 6 th January	Nursery School open again for all returning children
Mon 21 st - Fri 25 th February	<u>Nursery School Half-Term</u> Pre-booked holiday care available