



Chichester
Nursery School

01243 642959

May/June/July

Newsletters

Dear Parents and Carers,

The Summer Term is underway and we look forward to (hopefully!) some warm, sunny weather to come!

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:

- Staffing Updates
- Summer is Here!
- Wellies
- Caterpillars
- Prompt Collection
- Oving Scarecrow Day
- Thanks for Fruit
- Items in Children's Bags
- Taking Toys from Nursery
- Chichester Nursery School Danceathon
- Families Aloud
- Parent Workshops
- Holiday Care Deadlines
- Reports
- Parents' Evening
- Leavers' Celebrations
- Dates for your Diary **(including closure dates and some dates for next year)**

Staffing Updates

As always we have some staffing updates to share with you.



You will know that our wonderful Business Manager, Denise, left us at the end of the Easter holidays and is preparing to move to a new area. We have yet to appoint anyone to her role, so please bear with us over the

next few months as Teresa in the office steps up to cover a great deal of her work and we share Denise's other duties out amongst the Senior Leadership Team. There is lots to learn and I have no doubt that there will be glitches here and there – do come and speak to me, or Teresa in the office if you have any problems with your bill, or any other admin-related issue.

To help ease the pressure in the office as Teresa undertakes much of Denise's work we are delighted to have appointed Rachael Sparrow to provide some temporary administrative support in the office, as well as her work as a Lunchtime Assistant.

At the end of term we said goodbye to Chloe Tite, who worked as a Kickstart Apprentice in Nursery School. Those of you who had got to know Chloe will have seen how heavily pregnant she was. We look forward to hearing news when her baby arrives.

Just before Easter we welcomed our second Kickstart Apprentice, Montanna Fox-Shade, who will be supporting the Up to 3s' at lunchtime and teatimes and working in Nursery School in the afternoons.

Joanne Quelcutti joins us this term as a new Lunchtime Assistant in Nursery School, as the number of children staying for lunch at Nursery

continues to increase. Joanne has a strong background in supporting children in schools and we know she will give great support to our children at lunchtime.

We hope that our new staff settle in quickly and soon feel part of the Chichester Nursery School team!

One final exciting piece of staffing news is that our lovely Mili is getting married on 8th May. We have been hearing about all the amazing plans for her wedding and I am sure you will join me in wishing her and her husband-to-be a very happy life together!



Summer is here!!!

When the warm weather finally returns 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 ask that you apply before Nursery as usual and bring a bottle to Nursery (not left in your child's bag), with their name on, which we will then reapply after lunch.

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.

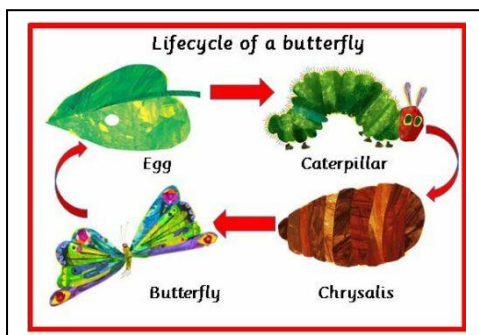
I would like to reassure parents that staff are very aware of the need to keep children safe in the sun. They watch carefully for signs that children are getting too hot and send them inside to cool down if necessary. We also make sure that cool water is in plentiful supply, both inside and outside.

Wellies

Although it may be Summer, there is no shortage of water and water play in the garden at this time of year and to avoid soggy shoes we encourage children to put their wellies on if they are exploring



water. However, there are lots of wellies missing so if you have taken your child's wellies home, please return them or bring another pair (named) if they have grown out of them so we can try to look after their shoes.



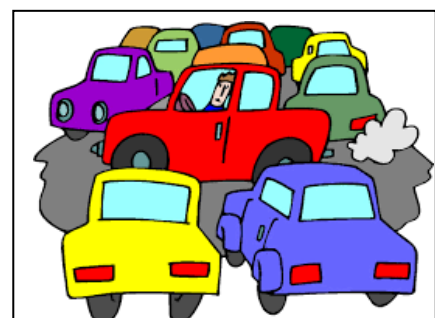
Caterpillars

In early May we will be having some caterpillars delivered to Nursery (a set for both the Up to 3s' and Nursery School). Over the

days that follow, the children will be able to watch the caterpillars eat and grow, until they form chrysalis', and then...who knows???! I'm sure the children will be excited to tell you about what is happening!

Prompt Collection

It is no secret that the traffic and roadworks in Chichester at the moment are a huge frustration to all drivers. With this in mind, please ensure you allow enough time



to get through the traffic.

for your journey to enable you to arrive promptly to pick up your child, particularly at the end of the day. If you would like to chat with staff for feedback about your child, please arrive a few minutes before 5pm, as after this time, staff need to tidy up and go home, as their working day does finish at 5pm. If you have been held up for any reason, please call us so that we can reassure your child and make provision for staff to stay with them.

A reminder that any collection after 5pm does incur an automatic £20 charge. For children collected late after other sessions you will be charged the cost of the next session, plus an admin fee of £5.

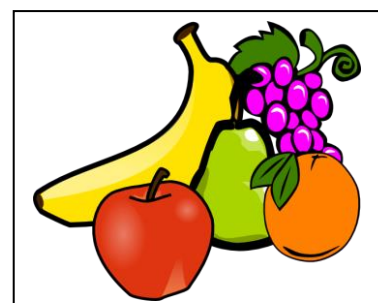


Oving Scarecrow Day

We are delighted to have been invited to contribute to the upcoming Scarecrow Day, which is to be held in Oving on Saturday 14th May. Each Keyworker Group in Nursery and the Up to 3s' will be making a scarecrow to go on display at the event in Oving. If you're around on that day, we do encourage you to go and take a look at our collection of Scarecrows – it's a great opportunity for a family day out, with scarecrows all round the village!

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 show their Keyworkers the fruit they have brought in and share it with their friends at snack time.

Don't forget that the Up to 3s' now have a basket for collecting your fruit donations each week. You will see it on the edge of the kitchen worktop in the Up to 3s'.



Items in Children's Bags

Just a brief reminder please make sure the following items are NOT in your child's bag, as they could be harmful to other children. These

include:

- Creams or medicines of any description (including suncream)
- Any type of food or drinks (*there are many children with allergies in Nursery and what you may consider a safe food could be dangerous to another child*)

Taking Toys From Nursery

On the subject of bags, we would be really grateful if you could check your child's pockets/bag on your way out of



Nursery and ensure they haven't decided to 'adopt' any of our toys or resources and bring them home! If you do find these on your way out, or even when you get home, please support your child to bring

them back to us the next day. We know it can be upsetting for your child, as the toy may be something they really want to have, but it is important to reinforce that toys and resources stay at Nursery. As well as teaching your child right from wrong, you will be helping to save us pennies, as when items go missing they have to be replaced. Do ask us for help if you are struggling to have this conversation with your child.



Chichester Nursery School Danceathon

Many of you will know that we are fundraising this year to develop a Sensory Garden for our children and to help raise money for this on **Wednesday 25th May** we will be dancing non-stop for the whole of a typical Nursery day. We will have guest dancers and musicians to help spur us on and we invite parents/carers to come and join us at drop off and pick up times. Your child will have brought home a sponsorship form and we hope you will help them get lots of sponsors, either through their form or via our JustGiving page https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/chinurserydanceathon?utm_term=kwqn5JpXq We hope this event will not only raise lots of money but be great fun too!

Families Aloud!

We are so excited to re-launch our much-loved Families Aloud events and what better time than in the Summer? So, on **Sunday 19th June** you will have the chance to come and play in Nursery with your child/children (older and younger siblings are very welcome too, as are grandparents, cousins and friends!) As this Sunday is also Father's Day, we thought this would be a lovely opportunity for families to spend time together and enjoy something a bit special! 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. Please bring a picnic as we will all eat together in the garden. We hope to see lots of you there!



Parent Workshops

We have had excellent feedback from our Toilet Training and 'Top Tips for an Easier Life' (strategies to support you with children's behaviour) workshops

we have held this year.

Due to popular demand, we will be running both workshops again:

Toileting Workshop: 11th May, 9.15am in the Rainbow Room

If your child is 2 and above, or showing signs that they are ready to start the toilet training process, come along to the workshop at 9.15am (just after the main morning drop off time). The workshop will be run by Sonya and Louise from Nursery School who can offer advice, tips (and sympathy for those experiencing difficulties along the way!)

Top Tips for an Easier Life Parent Workshop: Thursday 26th May 2022, 9.15am in the Rainbow Room.

This workshop is aimed at addressing some of the common difficulties and questions that parents ask us around parenting: tantrums, bedtimes, picky eating, etc. The workshop will be run by Kathryn and Julie from Nursery School and is open to parents with children of all ages, but is specifically aimed at the 2-5 year old age range.

Sign up at the office, message our Facebook page, or speak to your child's Keyworker if you are interested.

Holiday Care Deadlines

If you are a parent of Nursery School children and require holiday care for the May/June half term please collect a form from the Nursery foyer and return it to us by **Friday 6th May.**



Forms for holiday care over the Summer holidays will be available after half term and will need to be in by **Friday 24th June**.

Please note that holiday care places are limited and will be allocated on a first-come, first served basis.



Reports

As I mentioned at the beginning of the Newsletter you may soon notice that some Keyworkers will be out of Nursery School more than usual – 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. If you have any queries please talk to your child's Keyworker. Up to 3s' children also receive reports, but these are now written just before they move through to Nursery School.



Parents' Evening

Parent consultations for Nursery School and Up to 3s' children will take place on **Wednesday 30th June.**

(Some Keyworkers may run an additional session during the Nursery day, due to the number of children in their group.)

This is your opportunity to talk through your child's progress and discuss their 'next steps'.

For those children who are moving on to primary school it will also be an opportunity to discuss your child's school report and any concerns you might have about your child starting school.

Appointments can be made with your child's Keyworker from the middle of June.

Please note: we are unable to look after any children during the consultations and it is better that children are not present during the meeting with your child's Keyworker, as this can be distracting for parents and carers but also makes it difficult to talk about any more sensitive matters. Therefore, **please find alternative arrangements for your children during this time or arrange to have your parent's evening appointment over the phone.** Thank you.

Leavers' Celebrations

This is the sad bit - on Thursday 21st July we will be saying goodbye to those children leaving



to go to Primary Schools in September. We are delighted to be able to invite Parents and carers of leavers to join us for this celebration in the Nursery garden:

Morning Ceremony at 11am for:

- Red, Blue & Orange morning groups
- SSC morning group (11.30am)
- Louise's Yellow C Group children

Afternoon Ceremony at 2pm for:

- Afternoon children in Blue group
- Purple group children
- Pink group children
- Green group children
- Clare's Yellow D group
- SSC afternoon and 30 hour children (3.15pm)

If there are difficulties about attending please speak to your child's Keyworker about which session you would like to attend.

We will be gathering together outside for this farewell, where all children leaving the School will be given a special teddy as a parting gift. SSC children and parents will have a slightly different gathering in the Rainbow Room garden, at a slightly later time. Speak to Angie for more details if you are a Rainbow Group parent.

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!

Dates for your Diary

Overleaf is a quick reference guide to the dates you need to know about. We have included dates for the beginning of the new school year in September for those of you that need to plan ahead for work etc.



I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our parents and carers for your support this year. I wish all our families a very happy (and hopefully sunny) Summer!

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



Dates for Your Diary

Weds 11 th May	Toileting Workshop for Parents/Carers - 9.15am
Weds 25 th May	<u>Chichester Nursery Danceathon! 9am-4pm</u> Sign up for a dance slot and get sponsored to raise money for our Sensory Garden
Thurs 26 th May	'Top Tips for an Easier Life' Behaviour Workshop for Parents/Carers – 9.15am
Mon 30 th May- Weds 1 st June	HALF TERM Pre-booked holiday care only for all children
Thurs 2 nd June Fri 3 rd June	Bank Holidays – Nursery Closed!
Mon 6 th June	Term Restarts after Half Term
Sun 19 th June	<u>Families Aloud! 10am-12pm</u> Come and play in Nursery with your child Bring a picnic lunch
Weds 30 th June	<u>Parent Consultation Evening</u> No children please!
Thurs 21 st July	<u>Last Day of Summer Term & Leavers' Celebrations</u> Parents attend at 11am and 2pm
Fri 22 nd July	SUMMER HOLIDAYS BEGIN Pre-booked holiday care only for all children
Mon 22 nd – Fri 26 th Aug	Nursery shutdown week. Whole of Nursery closed!

Mon 29 th Aug	Bank Holiday – Nursery Closed
Tues 30 th Aug	<u>Nursery Re-Opens</u> For pre-booked holiday care – only for returning children
Weds 31 st Aug	Pre-booked holiday care – only for returning children
Thurs 1 st Sept	Nursery School & Up to 3s’ closed for INSET Training
Fri 2 nd Sept	Nursery School & Up to 3s’ closed for INSET Training
Mon 5 th Sept	Nursery School closed for Home Visits. All Up to 3s’ children return
Tue 6 th Sept	Term restarts for all returning Nursery School children
Mon 25 th Oct- Fri 28 th Oct	HALF TERM Pre-booked holiday care only for all children
Mon 31 st Oct	Nursery School & Up to 3s’ closed for INSET Training
Tues 1 st Nov	Nursery School & Up to 3s’ closed for INSET Training