



Chichester
Nursery School

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March/April 2023

Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Finally there are signs that Spring is on the way! It is always so lovely to see the daffodils coming into bloom on the roundabout; and the children are enjoying the warmer sunshine when they are out in the garden.

This is a short but busy half term, with lots of events like World Book Day and Red Nose Day that take up a lot of time and energy for us (and you as parents and carers!) We know these “special days” can be quite stressful for you so we have tried to keep it as simple as possible!

As always, there is a list of key dates at the end of this booklet to help you keep track of everything that is going on. **This includes dates for the last day of the Nursery Year and the start of the new School Year in September** for those of you that like to plan ahead!

In this Newsletter you will find information on:

- Staffing Updates
- World Book Day
- Comic Relief (Red Nose Day)
- Nursery Photos
- Parking
- Parents' Evening
- POWs
- Easter Holiday Care Deadline
- Fruit Donations
- Parent Workshops
- Easter/Springtime Celebrations
- Holidays During Nursery Time
- Families Aloud
- Dates for your Diary



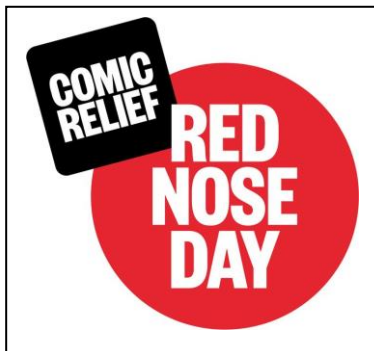
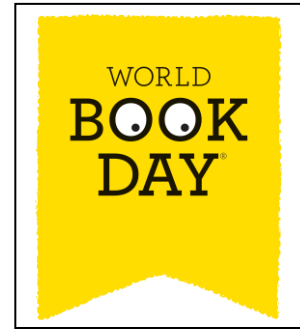
Staffing Updates

We are sad to have said goodbye to Lillie-Marie. Lillie has got a new role that combines her love of animals and children as an educational farm assistant. We thank her for all her hard work and wish her all the best in her new role.

During last half term we welcomed Hannah McNally to our Bank Staff team – she is still working as a Lunchtime Assistant, but is wonderful at saving the day whenever we have a staffing gap in session times.

World Book Day

A huge thank you to all of you for the efforts you went to in creating your children's World Book Day costumes. There were bears everywhere we looked and the children loved sharing their favourite bear stories. We hope you enjoyed seeing some of their pictures on our Facebook page.



Red Nose Day – Fri 17th March

We would love it if children could come to Nursery wearing something red and bring a donation for the wonderful Comic Relief charity.

Nursery Photos

We had a photographer spend some time with us in Nursery at the beginning of February taking photos of the children at play. He managed to capture photos of the majority of the children (absence, refusals and naptimes were the reasons for no photo). Each child had their own individual QR code which you should have received by now. This allows parents to view their child's photos and purchase them if they wish.



Parking

A plea! If you are able to walk to Nursery we would appreciate it.



Our car park, as you will have noticed, gets very busy at the main drop off and pick up times. Parking on the yellow lines, on the roundabout or in front of the green fence/gates is prohibited and when it happens it means that our car park becomes a dangerous place to navigate. We have had several occasions recently where people have been trapped in their parking space because cars have been left parked on the end of a row. This results in there not being enough room for them to be able to swing out of the space. We understand that parents are often in a rush, but the safety of our children and families must come first. If there is not a marked parking space available, please park in one of the roads nearby.



Parents' Evening

Parent consultations for Nursery School will take place on Wednesday 8th March.

Up to 3s' children will take place as follows:

Loo's Green Group: Weds 8th March

Kirsty's Yellow Group: Weds 15th March

Freya's Red Group: Weds 15th March and Weds 22nd March

Sarah's Blue Group: Weds 15th March and Weds 22nd March

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 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.

If you haven't already signed up for an appointment, please ask your child's Keyworker.

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.

POWs

Talking of your child's progress, we hope you enjoy receiving your child's 'POW Update' each half term, showing pictures of the things they get up to in Nursery



and the progress they are making. We know that we are only part of the picture of your child's development so we would love it if you could send your child's Keyworker any pictures of things you get up to at home: perhaps a relative coming to visit, a trip to the farm, cooking or gardening

together, or an activity they enjoy doing at home. Just reply to the email that your child's keyworker has sent you containing your child's POW.



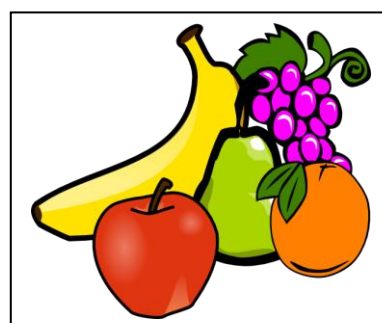
Easter Holiday Care Deadline

Parents of Nursery School children who want to book holiday care for the Easter Holidays are reminded that forms need to be in by **Monday 13th March** in order

for places to be guaranteed. Forms can be collected from the foyer, just outside Nursery.

Fruit Donations

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



Parent Workshops

Due to popular demand, we will be repeating our Top Tips for an Easier Life Workshop again:

**Top Tips for an Easier Life Parent Workshop:
Wednesday 15th March 2023 at 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, routines, 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.

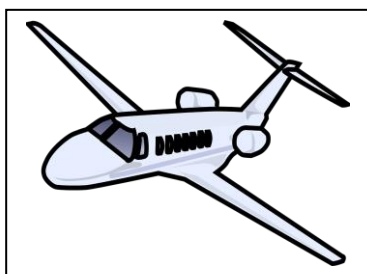


Easter/Springtime Celebrations

Due to the current egg shortage, we didn't feel that it would be appropriate to follow our usual **Nursery School** tradition of egg rolling while wearing our Easter

bonnets, so this year, we have decided to hold a spring-themed stay and play session for 45 minutes after drop-off instead. Parents are invited to stay on Wednesday 29th March after morning drop-off at 9am and join their child with some fun activities. We will then repeat this at afternoon drop-off at 12:45pm. Parents of all-day children are welcome to attend the afternoon session if it is easier for them.

The **Up to 3s' Nursery** will have their own informal Easter/Spring celebrations that week, though this will be without parents.



Holidays During Nursery Time

We have had notification of several families who are going away on

holiday during Nursery time. We understand that whilst children are not of statutory school age it is popular to take a holiday in term time. However, because we employ consistent daily staffing, rather than ad-hoc 'shifts' we are unable to offer refunds for any absence. This is set out in both our 'Attendance' and 'Non-Payment of Fees' policies which are available to view on our website or parents can request a paper copy of these from the Nursery office. Please come and talk to me or Clare if you have any queries.



Families Aloud!

We will be running a 'Families Aloud' event in the Summer term on **Sunday 25th 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!) 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. We hope to see lots of you there!

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.



Dates for Your Diary

Fri 17 th March	<u>Comic Relief (Red Nose Day)</u> Wear something red and bring a donation for this fantastic cause
Weds 8 th March	<u>Parent Consultation Evening</u> No children please!
Weds 15 th March	<u>New Children Taster Evening (Nursery School) 4.00-5pm</u> Including children transferring from Up to 3s'
Weds 15 th March	<u>Top Tips for an Easier Life Workshop</u> for parents/Carers – 9:15am
Weds 29 th March	<u>Spring–Themed Stay and Play</u> for Over 3s' Nursery School children 9am or 12:45pm
Fri 31 st March	Last Day of Spring Term
Mon 10 th April – Fri 22 nd April	EASTER HOLIDAYS Pre-booked holiday care only *** NURSERY CLOSED FOR BANK HOLIDAYS FRI 7th & MON 10th ***
Mon 17 th April	Term Restarts – Summer Term Begins
Mon 1 st May	May Bank Holiday – Nursery School & Up to 3s' Nursery Closed
Mon 8 th May	Bank Holiday for the Coronation of King Charles III - Nursery School & Up to 3s' Nursery Closed
Mon 29 th May- Fri 2 nd June	HALF TERM Pre-booked holiday care only for all children from Tues – Fri due to the Bank Holiday Monday
Mon 5 th June	Term Restarts after Half Term
Sun 25 th June	<u>Families Aloud! 10am-12pm</u> Come and play in Nursery with your child

<p>*Friday 21st July</p>	<p><u>Last Day of Summer Term</u> <u>ALL children who will be returning to Nursery School in September will finish at 12 noon (12:45pm if they have lunch).</u> <u>Please collect accordingly.</u></p> <p>In the afternoon we will be holding our Leavers' celebration for all of our children who will be starting school in September. If your child is a 30 hours child they will attend as usual in the morning and parents are invited to come in at 1pm for the celebration and take their child home afterwards. Morning children will attend as usual and are invited back with their parents at 1pm. Afternoon children are invited to attend at 1pm with their parents and go home after the celebration</p>
<p>Mon 24th July</p>	<p>SUMMER HOLIDAYS BEGIN Pre-booked holiday care only for Nursery School children</p>
<p>Mon 21st – Fri 25th Aug</p>	<p>Nursery shutdown week. Whole of Nursery closed!</p>
<p>Mon 28th Aug</p>	<p>Bank Holiday – Nursery Closed</p>
<p>Tues 29th Aug</p>	<p><u>Up to 3s' Re-Opens</u> Pre-booked holiday care – only for returning children</p>
<p>Fri 1st Sept</p>	<p>Nursery School & Up to 3s' closed for INSET Training</p>
<p>Mon 4th Sept</p>	<p>Nursery School closed for Home Visits. Up to 3s' children return</p>
<p>Tues 5th Sept</p>	<p>Term restarts for all returning Nursery School children. New children will be given their start date in their Welcome Pack.</p>

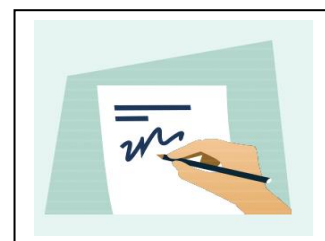
Parents App & Facebook

Have you downloaded our “ParentsApp” yet? Do you check and follow our Facebook page?



To help you keep up to date with all the events in Nursery – dressing up days, fundraising events and INSET days we have a “Parents App” and a Facebook page. Our Facebook page also shares photos of the fantastic learning that goes on in Nursery. If you have given us permission to use photos of your child you will sometimes see pictures of what they are up to. Download “OurSchoolsApp” on to your phone and select Chichester Nursery School. For our Facebook page, please “like” and follow our page if you haven’t already done so.

Message from Ruth (Executive Head)



I was so pleased to be able to be at Chichester Nursery School for our World Book Day celebrations and enjoyed seeing so many different types of bears. I loved hearing the children proudly tell me about the book that their bear came from. The day was filled with stories everywhere – wonderful to see!

Please do stop and chat if you have the time – or come and say ‘hi’ if we haven’t met before. I hope to see lots of you at the Easter stay and play. If not I’m sometimes ‘on the door’ at drop-off/pick-up times. I’m the one with the red shoes! **Ruth**