



Nursery Newsletter Spring 2019

(Half term1)

Welcome

Welcome back everyone we hope you had a brilliant Christmas and a Happy New Year! We would like to thank you for all of your gifts. They were very lovely, and we really appreciate the kind thoughts. Christmas is always a busy time at nursery, but the children had lots of fun with various events including Christmas lunch, Christmas party and of course a visit from Santa. A huge thank you to all the parents who volunteered with us during this period; we also want to say thank you for the foods you donated whether you have cooked it, baked it or faked it, you are still awesome, and it is the thoughts that matter. We would like to say a warm welcome to all of the parents, carers and children that are joining us this term. We want you to know that we have a completely open-door policy, where you can talk to us about anything. We are here for you, so if you have any concerns, comments or queries, please don't hesitate to speak to a member of staff, or your child's keyperson, or the manager.

Educational Focus

This half term we shall be focusing on light and dark, snow, ice and winter. The children will be learning about different climates and we will focus on the Kalaallits of Greenland and the animals that live in cold climates. We will be learning how to dress up to keep ourselves warm in the cold weather. We will also be making our own light boxes, den and space station

Other activities will include ice painting, mixing, weighing, measuring, liquid and solid states and our vocabularies will include melting, freezing, temperature etc. please note that children's interest will take precedence at all times irrespective of what we have planned.

Home Activities:

To encourage the learning that your child will get from the above activities, there are things that you can do together at home:

- * Discuss with your children all the different seasons focussing on the cold one, climates.
- * Look at books, photos and information about the Kalaallits in Greenland.
- *Talk about different animals that live in cold regions and how they keep warm
- * Help them to build a snow man weather permitting and walk in the snow.

Nursery Project

Our aim is to make the nursery a place that the children can enjoy being at both indoors and outdoors. We know that our children really enjoy being outdoor and we would like to make it better for them. We have now built a huge sandpit outdoor that the children have had tons of fun playing in. To achieve our aim for the type of outdoor area that we feel that your children deserve, we need your partnership as parents and carers. We would like parents to contribute their skills, contacts, expertise and time to this worthwhile project. Please let us know what you are able to help with, if you are in the trades or if you know someone who knows someone... you get the gist 😊

Dates to Remember

First day of Spring Term = Tuesday 7th Jan
Feb Half Term – Last Day 18th -22nd

Suitable Clothing

We go out to play in all weather and due to the unpredictability of our weather, we ask that children bring wellingtons and waterproof clothing and spare clothes as well as indoor pumps. Please label all items.

Bits and Bobs

Collection of children

It has come to our attention that the collection time is causing some of our children to be distressed. In view of this, the collection point for the preschool room is the baby gate. Parents must stand at this point and wait for their child to be brought over to them here by the key person or whoever is in charge of the room for the day; the exchange of information will also take place here. If for any reason this is not convenient for you please speak to Ruth in the office. We would also like parents to kindly stick to their collection time. We work to a ratio and any lateness to collect may impact on this.

Nursery times are:

7:30am – 12:30pm, 7:30am – 6:00pm, 8:00am – 6:00pm 9:00am – 2:00pm, 9:00am – 4:30pm and 1:00pm – 6:00pm.

Please arrive before your contractual pick up time to facilitate proper handover between you and your child's key person.

Parent Partnership/Home link

In a bid to strengthen our parent partnership in the new term and going forwards, we shall be sending home activities that you need to do with your children. please endeavour to do this and always update tapestry to let us know how it went. We have home learning bags which parents can sign out and take home to engage in activities with their children. There are bags for literacy, numeracy, mark making, and fine motor skills development. Please speak to Ruth or Carley if you are interested in going home with one.

Starting from the spring term, we have days set aside that parents and family members can come in to the nursery and stay and play with the children. if you have any special area of expertise that you will like to demonstrate to the children on the day please let us know ahead of time so that we can make arrangements for this.

French Lesson & other extracurricular activities

After the taster sessions that we had in the autumn term and the great feedback coupled with the opportunity and fun that the children had; we have decided to make this an ongoing event. We understand that the opportunity for the children to learn a new language which can also help with communication is not quantifiable. In view of this, we have made arrangements with Anna from Kidslingo to hold sessions at the nursery starting from January. Parents are free to bring their children in for these sessions even if they are not registered to attend on the day. Further to this extra-curricular session, we are also making arrangements with a fantastic army reserve personnel to provide physical education sessions at the nursery. We will keep you informed as this unfolds. We will appreciate a small voluntary donation from parents and carers to support us in making this continuous.

Menu

Our new menu has been updated again with a few changes in accordance with the children food trust guidelines. It will be in operation from the start of the spring term in January.

Nursery Software

We have now settled for the tapestry nursery management software for the recording of the children's learning journey. There is no one software that can do everything that we need, however we feel that this software is the closest to being able to provide us the opportunity to share an ongoing electronic learning journal with you that you can be involved in. please contact Ruth if you are struggling to log on to this system. Please note that we will still use Babysdays on the side for finance.

Funded sessions 2,3 and 4 year olds

All funded sessions end on Friday 15th for this half term and the second half term begins on Monday 25th February. Children can attend as normal during the holidays, but full rate fees will be payable. Please notify Ruth of your holiday requirements.

Feedback

We would like to thank all parents for attending the meet the key person day this term. This is going to be an ongoing event as you will see on our nursery annual calendar that will be sent out later. We really appreciate your feedback, good or bad. We value parent contributions which hopefully will help towards making us a better nursery and as such don't just tell us what you think we want to hear, please tell us what we need to hear. Also, if you have any comments or suggestions

Fee Payment

At New Beginnings we believe that a motivated staff is a happy staff and that is why we always strive to ensure that our staff are remunerated above living wage or age-related wage and in order for us to continue to thrive as a healthy business it is vital that all fees are paid as and when due. Monthly payments are due in advance on or before the 27th of the month while weekly fee need to be remitted by Friday or latest Monday morning. Unless there is a prior arrangement, late payment charge will be applied to outstanding fees. We would also like to use this opportunity to thank you for your continued support.