



Nursery Newsletter Spring 2019 (Half term2)

Welcome

Welcome back everyone we hope you had a fun filled half term despite the weather. We would like to say a warm welcome to all the parents, carers and children that are joining us from this half 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. We also want to say a warmer welcome to JM and OM and their family who are coming back to join us this half. We have missed you all and it is nice to have you back.

Educational Focus

This half term we shall be focusing on spring – new life and over the weeks we shall be looking at changes in the weather leading to animal Lifecycle, plant lifecycle which will give us an opportunity to focus on food and healthy eating. As part of our understanding the world we will be focusing on west Africa, people, weather, culture and food

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 lifecycle for plant and animals
- * Look at books, photos and information about the west African people.
- *take your child shopping and talk about healthy food choices and cook with them.

Staff Training and Meetings

Staff training this month is:

Encouraging Positive Behaviour

On Tuesday 19th March 2019

If you feel that you will benefit from this training and would like to join us, please let us know and we will make arrangement for you to join us on the day.

The nursery will close at 5pm, please make sure your child is picked up on time by 4:45pm.

Notice for Parents/Carers

We now have an annual nursery calendar depicting all the things that we will like to do in the year which require parents' involvement.

We would like you to be involved in these activities and as such we want you to make note of the dates and plan to be available when they are taking place.

Always look at the dates for your diary part of the newsletter to see what we have coming up.

French Lessons

We are pleased to report that the French lesson which started towards the end of Autumn term last year has continued to be a hit with the children. The lesson takes place on every other Tuesdays at 10:00am, and you can bring your child to the nursery on that day even if they do not normally attend. Please inform us ahead of time if you would like to do this.

Furthermore, we have a print out of all the things that we have learnt in the spring term 1; remember to collect your copy from your key person.

Finally, the Kidslingo team who provide our French lessons have a new spring-themed My Busy Bots packs which is designed to help your child's language learning journey through colour matching, shape sorting and other fun activities. This time the theme is mummy & baby animals and the farm environment. The price is £11 per pack. Please let me know by 5th March at the latest if you would like to order any. You can also order through anna.fisher@kidslingo.co.uk. Packs will be with you before Easter.

30 Hour Funding

- You will be eligible for the 30-hour funded childcare offer if:
- You earn more than the equivalent of 16 hours at the national living wage or minimum wage per week: for example, £120 per week if you are 25 or older.
- You earn less than £100,000 per year.
- If you no longer meet the eligibility criteria, your child's 30-hour place will continue to be funded for a 'grace period'. You should discuss this with your provider if and when you lose eligibility. The table below outlines how long the grace period will last, depending on when you become ineligible for the offer.

| Date parent's 30 hours eligibility code becomes invalid: | LA audit date: | Grace Period end date: |
|--|----------------|------------------------|
| 1 Jan – 10 Feb | 11 February | 31 March |
| 11 Feb – 31 March | 1 April | 31 August |
| 1 April – 26 May | 27 May | 31 August |
| 27 May – 31 August | 1 September | 31 December |
| 1 September – 21 October | 22 October | 31 December |
| 22 October – 31 December | 1 January | 31 March |

- If you want to start the 30 hours entitlement in September 2019, the Department for Education is encouraging parents who want to take up a 30 hours place in the autumn term to apply NO LATER THAN THE END OF JUNE, to get their code in good time.
- For parents in receipt of the 30 hour funding, you are responsible for checking your code is updated for each term to ensure you are covered for the term ahead.

You can read more about it by visiting:

<http://www.familycorner.co.uk/30-hours-free-childcare-guide-parents>

If you need help with your 30 hour funding application please see Ruth in the office or email the nursery.

Lunch with us

As you are aware our nursery menu is quite diversified and since the update to our menu, one of the foods that the children have taken a major liking to is Jollof Rice which is a staple food in West Africa. It is usually served as lunch or dinner and for any occasion small or big.

It is made from a combination of rice and tomato sauce cooked together in one pot, as matter of fact it is called 'one pot' in Sierra Leone.

We will be serving this on our lunch with us day on 12/03/2019. Kindly register for this event by emailing the nursery. Please feel free to ask us for the recipe or book a class to learn how to make it for your children at home.

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. Also, as the weather begins to get warmer, please provide hats, sunglasses and sun cream if you do not want to use nursery provided sun cream.

Sponsorship

Carley will be taking part in a skydiving event on the 9th of March 2019 in aid of Kidney Research UK. This is a cause that is close to her heart as it affects her dearest ones.

Please join us in sponsoring her through her JustGiving page by following the [Carley's Sky dive](#) link to give to this great cause.

Dates for your Diary

- 12/03/2019 - Lunch with us (parents stay and have lunch from 11:30am)
- 19/03/2019 - Staff meeting (Early closure)
- 28/03/2019 - Fathers to come and make mothers day cards for mums
- 29/03/2019 - Fathers to come and make mothers day cards for mums
- 29/03/2019 - Last day of funding for Spring Term
- 01/04/2019-14/04/2019 - Easter Holiday (non-funded weeks)

CAN YOU HELP?

Are you a nurse, a postman, a vet, firefighter, policeman, dentist, doctor, teacher, shop assistant etc. do you have some spare time to come into the nursery and tell our children about your role in the community?

If so please speak to Ruth or Carley

Arrival & Collection of children

We would like to politely remind parents/carers to kindly adhere to their contractual arrival and collection times.

Arriving too early or late for collection can affect our staff to children ratio and to avoid this we will ask you to wait outside if you have arrived too early for drop. If you are consistently late for collection we will have to follow the procedure set out in our arrival and departure policy. Please contact the office if you would like a copy of this document.

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 about our nursery; or if you would like to get more involved; please do not hesitate to speak to Ruth.