

St Catherine's Independent Nursery - Newsletter 3 - November 2018

Nursery Trustees – Jayne Chester (nominated person), Lisa Maddock, and Belinda Pearson

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Dear parents and carers,

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 6th November – Parent Partnership Evening

Tuesday 13th November – Mini First Aid lesson 10.15am

Monday 3rd December – Full Nativity Rehearsal 2pm-3pm

Tuesday 4th December – Nursery Nativity 9.30am (Nursery is closed after the nativity)

Friday 7th December – Christmas party 1pm-4pm (Nursery is closed in the morning)

Wednesday 12th December – Parent's Evening

Friday 14th December – last day of Autumn term for funded only children

Tuesday 18th December – Nursery closes at 6pm for the Christmas break

Monday 7th January 2019 – Nursery re-opens after Christmas break

Monday 18th February – Friday 22nd February – Half-term for funded only children

Wednesday 3rd April – Parent's Evening

Friday 5th April – Last day of Spring term for funded only children

Thursday 11th April – Nursery closes for Easter break – all children

Tuesday 23rd April – Nursery re-opens after Easter break – for all children

Monday 6th May – Bank holiday – Nursery closed

Monday 27th May – Bank holiday – Nursery closed

Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May – Half-term for funded only children

Wednesday 17th July – Parent's Evening

Friday 19th July – Last day of the Summer term for funded only children

Parent Partnership Evening

We are holding a parent partnership evening on Tuesday 6th November from 6pm until 6.45pm.

This session will be a chance for all parents, old and new, to make friends and get to know each other.

At the end of the session we will welcome any suggestions on what you would like to discuss next time, as we will be holding a parent partnership meeting at the beginning of each term.

Please could you use the parent app to register your attendance, and/or inform Mrs Brockliss.

Christmas Nativity

The rehearsals for the “Nativity” will begin very soon!

All the children will have a part, and all the children will have a costume and what happens on the day happens!

As you are aware, from the diary dates, we will be holding a “FULL” rehearsal on Monday 3rd December 2pm – 3pm for all the children. If your child/children do not normally attend nursery on a Monday, we would be very grateful if you could bring them along for the hour, as it is the only time before the actual production, that all the children will come together to rehearse.

Unfortunately, parents will be unable to watch the rehearsal or stay on the nursery premises during this hour. If you have any queries or questions with regard to the nativity, then please don't hesitate to speak to one of the staff.

Tickets for the nativity will be on sale from Monday 5th November at a cost of £1.00 per ticket. Unfortunately, due to health and safety reasons we have to limit the tickets to two tickets per family initially, if you require extra tickets please ask a member of staff to add your name to the reserve list.

We would like to politely remind parents that nursery will be closed for the afternoon after the nativity has finished.

Recording equipment during the Nativity Production

As you will be aware taking photographs and videos of children has become a “hot topic” over the past few years. As a nursery we would like you to be able to keep precious moments of your child/children. As a consequence, it has been decided to ask all parents/ carers for their permission before the Nativity begins. If everyone agrees then videos and photographs will be allowed, on the understanding that no material would be put on any social networking sites. If you feel you have any issues you wish to raise, please see Mrs Brockliss or Mrs Marriott before the event. We want the Nativity to be enjoyed by all and value everyone's opinion, have a think about it and let us know.

Sponsored Treasure Trail

We are holding our annual “Sponsored Treasure Trail” to raise money for the children’s Christmas Party, organising the entertainer, the party food, a special visit from a certain guy with a white beard, and the gifts that he brings! Everyone should have received a “Sponsor Sheet” and a “Treasure Trail Sheet.” Simply collect names on your sponsor sheet, then complete the “Treasure Trail” by either collecting the objects or drawing a picture and return it to the nursery where the children will receive a certificate of completion. Once you have the certificate you can collect the money and return it to the nursery.

Please return the “Treasure Trail” no later than Friday 16th November and collect all monies by Friday 23rd November. Happy Hunting!

Please note: For those parents who don’t manage to collect sponsor money a fee of £7.50 is required for your child to attend the Christmas party.

Raffle Prizes

We are collecting “Raffle” prizes for the draw after the “Christmas Nativity.” We would very much appreciate any gifts that you could donate, that would be suitable for either a child or an adult. E.G. Selection boxes, wine, gift boxes, toys etc... The raffle will take place after the “Christmas Nativity” performance. Please be kind enough to support your children!

Nursery Policies and Procedures

Parents please make yourself familiar with our new policies and procedures which you are able to view from our website and through our Parent app. In particular, our safeguarding, late collection and non-collection of a child, lost child policies and procedures, and Complaints and Compliments. If you do not have access to the internet please request to view these policies at nursery or ask to be provided with copies. If you have any queries or would like to contribute your ideas regarding our policies and procedures, please feel free to speak to a member of staff.

The policy of the month is Safeguarding and Child Protection, please view the policy through our nursery app.

Small screens and little people

We live in a world full of screens, from the smartphones in our pockets, the TVs in our homes, to tablets, laptops, PCs and games consoles, so it's not surprising that children become interested in them from a very early age. But when's the right time to introduce your child to screen-based learning and entertainment, what devices should they use, and how much time should they spend using them? Advice can be found on our Parent app, under useful links, or just follow the link below:

<http://www.familycorner.co.uk/small-screens-and-little-people>

Road Safety

The long dark nights at this time of the year, mean that it is really important to remind children of the importance of keeping safe when out after dark. Please follow the link below or have a look on our Parent app, under useful links, entitled, 'Road Safety – the Children's Traffic Club' (CTC). CTC is a multi-sensory augmented reality (AR) road safety and active travel education programme for the under 5's which teaches children the skills and knowledge to keep them safe when out and about.

<http://www.childrenstrafficclub.com/about>

Mini First Aid Class

Mini First Aid is coming to meet our children on **Tuesday 13th November at 10.15am** to talk to them about how grown-ups look after us if we hurt ourselves. It is aimed at the children's age group and is fun and interactive. Mini First Aid help little ones to understand what is happening to their bodies if they are hurt, where blood comes from, why do you get a lump if you bang your head.

For those parents whose child/children attend on a Tuesday please see Letters for Home on our Parent App with important information on the Mini First Aid Class.

We will be booking other sessions in the Spring term and the Summer term in order for all of the children to be able to participate.

Sound of the Week

w/c 29th October – 'ck'

w/c 5th November – 'e'

w/c 12th November – 'h'

w/c 19th November – 'r'

w/c 26th November – 'm'

w/c 3rd December – 'd'

Word of the Week

w/c 29th October – 'senses'

w/c 5th November – 'thinking'

w/c 12th November – 'curious'

w/c 19th November – 'focus'

w/c 26th November – 'fascinated'

w/c 3rd December – 'interest'

Nursery Rhyme of the Week

Throughout November and December, the nursery children will be practicing their nativity songs. **Please find a Nativity song sheet on our Parent app under useful documents, to help your child learn the songs at home.** We will resume Nursery Rhyme of the week in January.

A home needed for our nursery pet fish and Guinea-pigs over the Christmas holiday

If you are interested in looking after our pet fish or Guinea-pigs over the Christmas holidays then please speak to a member of staff.

Fees for Diddy Dribblers and Mini-Maestros

If your child attends nursery on a Tuesday morning (Diddy Dribblers) or a Thursday morning (Mini Maestros) then there is an additional fee of £2 per session. Please ensure all of your nursery fees are paid at least one week in advance

Yours sincerely

Helen Brockliss

Nursery Manager