

## St Catherine's Independent Nursery - Newsletter 1 – September 2021

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

**Registered Charity Number:-** 1152421

**Ofsted Number –** EY488889

**Telephone:** 01772 456304

**Email -** info@stcatherinesnursery.co.uk

**Website -** www.stcatherinesnursery.co.uk

Dear Mums, Dads and Carers,

We would like to take this opportunity in “WELCOMING” all the new children and their parents into the nursery.

The government funding for two to five-year old children is a maximum of 30 hours per week (15 universal hours and 15 extended hours), for thirty-eight weeks of the year. This terms entitlement is for 14 weeks, and nursery is open for 15 weeks. Those children accessing the funded hours only will have a one-week holiday, commencing Monday 25<sup>th</sup> October, and returning to nursery on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November, and will finish for the Christmas holidays on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December and return on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

Please feel free to discuss any of these matters with Mrs Brockliss or Mrs Marriott.

### **New Blossom app**

As you have all been made aware, we have a new app for parents to view their child's learning journey, as well as many other features. Such as, accessing your invoices and payment receipts, you can view your child's current, past and future booking pattern of sessions. You can also view a list of extra sessions booked on specific dates. Accident and incident forms will also now be completed via the app too.

Please can parents complete their child's 'All About Me' section on the app too. This can be altered at any time to coincide with your child's changing interests, routine, and any other specific details.

For more information please view the 'Blossom – Parent Guide' on our Parent Connect app, under Useful Documents – Useful information.

Please note: Please inform your child's key person if you would like a PDF of your child's learning from Evidence for Learning. You can still access it using your link and password 😊

## **Blossom app – ID photos**

Please can all parents send a photograph of themselves, and your emergency contacts the same style as a passport. Please send the photo to your child's keyperson. See below for email addresses.

These photographs will be uploaded onto our new Blossom app for easy identification purposes.

## **Email addresses**

Main Nursery email address ~ [info@stcatherinesnursery.co.uk](mailto:info@stcatherinesnursery.co.uk)

You can contact your child's individual Keyperson via their email address regarding; their unique learning journey, suggested next steps in their learning and development, your child's current interests at home and special moments at home or anything else you feel is important to share.

Keyperson email addresses ~

Mrs Marriott ~ [mrsmmariott@outlook.com](mailto:mrsmmariott@outlook.com)

Mrs Handyside ~ [mrsjhandyside@outlook.com](mailto:mrsjhandyside@outlook.com)

Mrs Leonard ~ [mrsleonard@outlook.com](mailto:mrsleonard@outlook.com)

Mrs Worsley ~ [mrsworsley@outlook.com](mailto:mrsworsley@outlook.com)

Mrs Weir ~ [mrsjeweir@outlook.com](mailto:mrsjeweir@outlook.com)

Mrs Critchley ~ [mrsklcritchley@outlook.com](mailto:mrsklcritchley@outlook.com)

Miss Rowlands ~ [missrowlands@outlook.com](mailto:missrowlands@outlook.com)

Miss Rawlinson ~ [missrawlinson@outlook.com](mailto:missrawlinson@outlook.com)

Mrs Rawlinson ~ [mrsemarawlinson@outlook.com](mailto:mrsemarawlinson@outlook.com)

## **Staff Roles**

For your information, please take note of the following staff roles below:

Nursery Manager - Helen Brockliss: Nominated Child Protection Officer

Deputy Manager - Mary Marriott: Nominated Child Protection Officer, Health and Safety Officer

Jane Handyside: Nominated Child Protection Officer, Equalities Named Coordinator (ENCO)

Louise Leonard: Parental Involvement Coordinator (PICO)

Emma Rawlinson: Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO)

### **Recycled Nursery Jumpers**

We have a number of used nursery jumpers available for only £1, ideal for a spare jumper. If you wish to buy one or two please ask a member of staff. The proceeds will be used for new nursery resources.

### **Hot lunches**

Hot lunches will resume after the half term, from Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November. If you would like your child to have a hot lunch, please complete our hot lunch request form which will be available on our Parent Connect app very soon.

Please note: Hot lunches cost £2.35 per day

### **New Nursery Logo**



We are very excited to announce that we have a fresh new nursery logo, kindly designed by one of our lovely parents as a leaving present, thank you so much Joanne Ikin! 😊 You can find **Jo I Creative** on Facebook and Instagram.

Please don't worry about nursery uniforms as the change over from our old logo will take several months.

### **Nursery Rhyme of the Week**

Reading, reciting and singing nursery rhymes are an excellent way to help children get ready to read. When a child chants a rhyme repeatedly, they develop key pre-reading skills such as the ability to hear the distinct sounds that make up words, discern sound and word patterns and broaden their vocabulary. Studies have shown that the more nursery rhymes a child knows, the easier it will be for children to learn to read. So, this week we will be introducing nursery rhyme of the week to all our new children, which will be sung at singing time, and we encourage parents to sing the nursery rhyme at home with their child.

The week commencing 13<sup>th</sup> September it will be '1,2,3,4,5, once I caught a fish alive'

The week commencing 20<sup>th</sup> September it will be, 'There were ten in the bed'

The week commencing 27<sup>th</sup> September it will be 'Five little speckled frogs'

The week commencing 4<sup>th</sup> October it will be 'Five little ducks'

Please go to our Parent Connect app, click 'More' scroll down to 'Useful links' and scroll down to 'Communication and Language Development for the words to all the nursery rhymes of the week and much more!

### **Word of the Week**

Staff will be incorporate the 'Word of the week' into normal routines and activities throughout the day, and we ask parents to join in at home to develop their child's vocabulary.

w/c 13<sup>th</sup> September – 'independent'

w/c 20<sup>th</sup> September – 'enthusiastic'

w/c 27<sup>th</sup> September – 'concentrating'

w/c 4<sup>th</sup> October – 'estimate'

### **Sound of the Week**

To all our new parents ~ Letters and Sounds is a six-phase programme designed to help teach children to read and spell with phonics. At Nursery we will be concentrating on Phase One. The aim of this phase is to foster children's speaking and listening skills as preparation for learning to read with phonics. Parents can play a vital role in helping their children develop these skills, by encouraging their children to listen carefully and talk extensively about what they hear, see and do.

Starting from 13<sup>th</sup> September we will have a 'Sound of the Week', for instance the sound of the week for the week commencing 13<sup>th</sup> September is 's', we would normally ask parents to bring in something from home beginning with each sound of the week, but due to COVID-19 we cannot allow children to bring in any items from home. Therefore, we ask parents to help their child to find items in their home beginning with the letter 's' next week. Please see below for subsequent weeks thereafter.

w/c 13<sup>th</sup> September – 's'

w/c 20<sup>th</sup> September – 'a' for instance 'apple' not 'ape'

w/c 27<sup>th</sup> September – 't'

w/c 4<sup>th</sup> October – 'i' for instance 'igloo' not 'ice'

## **New EYFS Framework - Development Matters 2021**

The curriculum guidance for the early years foundation stage has been reviewed and updated.

The main changes are as follows:

- The educational programmes for each EYFS area are longer and more in-depth.
- The early learning goals (ELGs) have been changed to make them more specific.
- There is a new focus on early language and extending vocabulary, with more examples on how to develop skills across all 7 EYFS areas, because this improves child development in a broad curriculum.

You can find a link to the new framework on our Parent Connect app, under useful links – Children's Learning and Development.

## **Main Focus for Learning and Development - PSED**

This half term we will be focusing on Personal, Social and Emotional area of Learning and Development (PSED), which will involve settling new children into nursery, developing strong child/key person relationships, learning routines and boundaries, and encouraging friendships.

Children's PSED is crucial for children to lead healthy and happy lives, and is fundamental to their cognitive development. Underpinning their personal development are the important attachments that shape their social world. Strong, warm and supportive relationships with adults enable children to learn how to understand their own feelings and those of others. Children should be supported to manage emotions, develop a positive sense of self, set themselves simple goals, have confidence in their own abilities, to persist and wait for what they want and direct attention as necessary. Through adult modelling and guidance, they will learn how to look after their bodies, including healthy eating, and manage personal needs independently. Through supported interaction with other children they learn how to make good friendships, co-operate and resolve conflicts peaceably. These attributes will provide a secure platform from which children can achieve at school and in later life

We have lots of ideas for supporting children's PSED at home on our Parent Connect app, just click 'Home Learning' on the home page.

## **Family Photographs**

As we are concentrating on the “Personal, Social and Emotional” area of development, which will incorporate settling the children into the nursery routine. We will be discussing “our family, and the members of our family.” We would therefore very much appreciate it if parents could send “Family” photographs via email to their child’s keyperson (please see over for staff email addresses), don’t worry if you don’t have one of everyone together, individual photographs of members of the family are quite acceptable.

## **Used Children’s Magazines**

If you have any unwanted children’s magazines at home, please bring them into nursery for our book room. Thank you.

## **Children’s absences**

It is an OFSTED requirement that parent’s must inform nursery of when their child will be absent from nursery. Please contact nursery before your child’s session starts to report absences, you can either phone nursery, email or through our Parent Connect app. Children who do not attend nursery on a regular basis will unfortunately lose their nursery place due to new OFSTED regulations, so it is vital that your child attends nursery.

## **Change 4 Life Campaign**

Would you or your family like to be healthier and happier? Would you like loads of ideas, recipes and games to help you do this? Then join Change4Life to help you achieve your goals! To register your family please go to our app – More - Useful Links – Healthy Eating

## **Healthy packed lunches for early years**

A healthy lunch every day will give your child the energy and nutrients they need to grow, develop and learn. A practical guide for parents and carers with some ideas of what to include to ensure that your children’s packed lunch is healthy, balanced and nutritious is available to view via our parent app under useful documents – Healthy Eating.

## **Nursery Policies and Procedures**

Parents please make yourself familiar with our policies and procedures which you are able to view from our website and through our Parent Connect 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 'Healthy Packed Lunch', please view the policy via our Parent Connect app. Click the 'More' tab and scroll down to 'Policies and Procedures'.

### **Suitable outdoor clothing**

Please ensure your child has suitable outdoor clothing that can be kept at nursery, for instance a sunhat for the warmer weather and woolly hat, scarf and gloves for the colder weather. If children do not have suitable outdoor wear they won't be able to play outdoors.

### **Sepsis awareness month**

September is Sepsis awareness month and to make our parents aware of the signs, there is a link through our Parent Connect app, under 'Useful Links' – 'Sickness and Illness'

Yours sincerely

Helen Brockliss

Nursery Manager