



St Catherine's Independent Nursery - Newsletter 3 – November 2023

Nursery Trustees – Lisa Maddock (nominated person, Jo Ikin, Belinda Pearson, and Tracy Austin)

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Christmas Nativity

The rehearsals for the Nativity will begin very soon!

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

Information

The date - **Wednesday 6th December**

The time - **9.30am to 11am**

Location – **The school hall (entrance at the end of the school building up a ramp)**

We will be holding a **“FULL” rehearsal on Tuesday 28th November 9.30am – 10.30am for all the children.** If your child/children do not normally attend nursery on a Tuesday, 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 regarding the nativity, then please don't hesitate to speak to one of the staff.

Tickets for the nativity are on sale now at a cost of £2.00 per ticket. Unfortunately, due to health and safety reasons we must 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 after the nativity has finished.

Funded hours your child would normally receive on a Wednesday after the nativity finishes, can be banked and used on an alternative day or added onto a session, subject to availability.

Sponsored Treasure Trail

We are holding our annual "Sponsored Treasure Trail" to raise money for the children's Christmas Party, including organising the entertainer 'Taz entertainment', the party food, a special visit from Father Christmas, and the gifts that he brings! Everyone should find a "Sponsored Treasure Trail Sheet" in their child's tray. 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. Who is going to be the first to collect all the items and receive their certificate?

Please return the "Treasure Trail" no later than Friday 17th November and collect all monies by Friday 24th November. Happy Hunting!

For those parents who don't manage to collect sponsor money a fee of £8.00 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.

Thank you in advance for your support 😊

Recording equipment during the Nativity Production

As you will be aware, taking photographs and videos of children is a hot topic. As a nursery we would like you to be able to keep precious moments of your child/children. Consequently, 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 Handyside before the event. We want the Nativity to be enjoyed by all and value everyone's opinion.

Nursery Policies and Procedures

Parents, please make yourself familiar with our new policies and procedures which you can 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 Complaints and compliments, please view via our Parent Connect app.

Suggestion Box

A parents Suggestion Box is located near the fish tank, please feel free to jot down any ideas you have to improve any aspect of nursery and post it into the box provided! We are in the process of reviewing our setting development plan, so any suggestions will be highly valued and much appreciated! We also have a suggestion box on our parent app too under surveys 😊

Parents Questionnaire

We would like to give all our parents the opportunity to complete a questionnaire to help us improve our service. Please find our questionnaire on our Parent Connect App under surveys and complete it by Friday 24th November, it would be very much appreciated. 😊

Lost Property

We have numerous items in our lost property basket, please can parents have a look through to check for any lost items before Friday 11th November as any items unclaimed will be disposed of.

Used Children's Magazines needed.

If you have any used children's magazines, please bring them to nursery and they will be placed in the book room for the children.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED)

We are concentrating on PSED this term, to help your child with their PSED at home there is a parent's guide available on our Parent App under Useful Documents, and on the 'Home Learning' section of the app you will also find PSED activities. In addition, the document entitled 'EYFS areas of Learning'

covers all of the areas of the EYFS and explains how you can help your child at home in all aspects of their learning and development.

Sound of the Week

w/c 30th October - 'c' 'k' 'ck' sound for example 'clock', 'sock', 'lock', 'cat', 'king' not 'knight', 'chair', 'cherry'

w/c 6th November – 'e'

w/c 13th November – 'h'

w/c 20th November – 'r'

w/c 27th November – 'm'

Word of the Week

w/c 30th October – 'senses'

w/c 6th November – 'curious'

w/c 13th November – 'focus'

w/c 20th November – 'fascinated'

w/c 27th November – '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, 'Useful information' to help your child learn the songs at home.** We will resume Nursery Rhyme of the week in January.

A home needed for our Guineapig over the Christmas holiday.

If you are interested in looking after our Guineapig over the Christmas holidays, then please speak to a member of staff.

Explore.org

There is a link to a fantastic website on our parent app connect, entitled, 'Explore.org' where you can watch live animals and nature cameras from across the world. In nursery the children have been watching a bald eagle's nest on Santa Cruz Island in California and brown bears playing and catching

fish in Brook falls Alaska! To view live animal and nature cams go to – Useful links – Understanding the World.

Vitamin supplements for Children

The government recommends all children aged 6 months to 5 years are given vitamin supplements containing vitamins A, C and D every day.

Vitamin D

[Vitamin D](#) is only found in a few foods, such as oily fish and eggs. It's also added to some foods, such as fat spreads and breakfast cereals. But it's difficult to get enough vitamin D from food alone.

The main source of vitamin D is summer sunlight on our skin. But it's important to keep your child's skin safe in the sun.

Young children should still have vitamin drops, even if they get out in the sun.

The Department of Health and Social Care recommends:

- Children aged 1 to 4 years old should be given a daily supplement containing 10 micrograms of vitamin D.

Vitamin A

[Vitamin A](#) is important for children, and some may not be getting enough. It's needed for a healthy immune system, can help their vision in dim light, and keeps skin healthy.

Good sources of vitamin A include:

- dairy products
- fortified fat spreads
- carrots, sweet potatoes, swede and mangoes
- dark green vegetables, such as spinach, cabbage and broccoli

Vitamin C

[Vitamin C](#) is important for your child's general health and immune system. It can also help their body absorb iron.

Good sources of vitamin C include:

- oranges
- kiwi fruit
- strawberries
- broccoli
- tomatoes
- peppers
- **A balanced diet for children**

It's important for children to eat a wide variety of foods to make sure they're getting all the energy and nutrients they need to grow and develop properly.

Kind regards

Helen Brockliss

Nursery Manager