

## October 2019

Dear Parents

Welcome to the first Newsletter of the school year for Chertsey Nursery School. It has been an absolute delight and pleasure to welcome you and your children into the Nursery. The team at Chertsey have been enjoying finding out about the new children and welcoming back our returners. They are all settling well into nursery life.

Our Newsletters aim to give you important information about the Nursery and the experiences your children will have. Please take time to read, as there will be lots of useful information and reminders.

In the Nursery, the children have been exploring their new surroundings and getting to know their new friends in the last of the summer sunshine. You can see that the children are working cooperatively together, taking turns, sharing and discovering their surroundings!



Chertsey Nursery School





### **Mobile Phones**

Mobile telephones – we do not allow the use of mobile phones anywhere in the centre building. This includes the entrance and corridors when waiting to collect your children. This is part of our safeguarding policy to protect ALL children. I ask Debbie and Lisa in the office not to allow any parents, carers or visitors to enter the building if on their telephones. Please therefore, do not be offended if they ask you to put it away. While you are settling your child, you may use your telephone in the front office or out under the covered area.



**Snacks and food** – we have a number of children (and adults) with a variety of food allergies – some of which are life threatening. There are a number of parents allowing their children to arrive with a snack, or leave a snack in their child's peg in the cloakroom. There should be no food other than fruit being brought into the building.

**Sickness – vomiting and diarrhoea!** – not the nicest subject to discuss, however, it is vital that after any sickness bug (where your child has had sickness or diarrhoea), the Surrey policy is that your child does not return to Nursery until they have been clear of any symptoms for 48 hours. This is to stop the bugs spreading.

Sadly, our school budget is getting smaller each year. The large majority of the budget that we are given by the local authority is spent on the wonderful staff at the Nursery. Therefore, we rely heavily on donations and fundraising to enable us to provide the opportunities your child is experiencing.



**£5 termly voluntary contribution** – thank you to those of you who have made your £5 termly contribution to the Nursery. This supports the costs of additional resources, experiences such as resources to make playdough, cooking, etc. If you have not done so yet, we would be very grateful if you could make a donation to us so we can continue to provide the very best for your child.

**Parking** – Please may I remind you that the carpark for the Nursery is only for staff. We encourage you to park along the road outside the Nursery but please be respectful and courteous to our neighbours. Keep the zigzag lines outside the Nursery clear, as this keeps the traffic flowing along the road.

**Dogs** – are not permitted anywhere on our premises. Many children (and adults) are nervous around dogs that leap and jump at them. If you walk to nursery and bring your dog with you, please ensure it is tied away from the school gates.



**Spare clothes** – please ensure your child has a change of clothes on their peg. We encourage your child to get messy and dirty at nursery and sometimes they need to be changed. Young children often have accidents and need to be changed. They are much more comfortable in their own clothes rather than our spare ones. Spare clothes should be in a rucksack type bag on your child's peg. Please do not send plastic carrier bags.

**Clothes** – we want your children to be as independent as possible. Please dress your child in loose comfortable clothes without buttons and zips. Elasticated waists such as leggings, joggers etc. Jeggings are not ideal, as they are often a bit snug.

**Coats** – parents may not realise the amount of time their children spend outside when they are with us! They love exploring the environment outside; therefore, it is vital they have a named coat in Nursery each day – even if it looks sunny in the morning.



**Fruit** – please bring a piece of fruit for the fruit bowl a couple of times a week. This is shared with the children at snack time.

**Tissues** – with the wintery months coming, we go through hundreds of tissues! Please can we ask that you donate a box of tissues to the nursery to keep us going.





If you are new to us, you will have recently received an automated email from TAPESTRY, asking you to set up your account. We are using Tapestry to share photographs and observations of your child with you. This is a secure site, where you need a log in to be able to access the account. You can also download an app to access it more easily on your smartphone. If you have not yet received your email, or been unsuccessful in activating your account, please let your key person know as we can easily reset it.

Staff are using iPads/Android tablets to take images of your child. I can assure you these are Nursery owned devices, which do not leave the building. They are secure on our network. Although they may look like the staff are on phones and other devices, it would be a breach of their contract to do so. Your child's safety is paramount.

### **School open days**

Although it might seem very soon in the school year, the Admissions window to submit a primary school application for your child will open soon. Local schools are hosting Open Mornings over the coming weeks, and I would urge you all to go and look at the schools you are considering for your child. Choosing a school is like buying a house – it needs to 'feel right' for you as a family, therefore, listening to the gossip of others and relying on hearsay are not the right way to make this important decision. We are more than happy to advise you with regard to the admissions process and can help you to complete the form; however, we are not able to advise on the school choice for you. The deadline for applications is 15th January 2020 and as soon as I have dates of the Open Days, I will share that with you.



If your child has SEND or is in our SEND provision – El and Caroline can talk to you about the admissions process for your child.

### **Lunchtimes and extended day**

If your child attends for a morning or afternoon session, you may extend your child session to include lunchclub or the morning/afternoon session. There are costs involved in these sessions, which Debbie in the office can advise you on. Please note, children cannot extend their session until they are settled in their core hours. Do not forget to let us know if your working situation changes and you think you might be eligible for the 30-hour offer. If you have any questions to ask us please talk to your key person or another member of staff!

## Dates for your diary

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October** – break up for ½ term

**Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November** – ½ term, Nursery closed.

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November** – Nursery re opens

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November** – Nursery School Photos (more information to follow)

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December** – Christmas Jumper Day (for Save the Children)

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December** – 2's Christmas Sing a long

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December** – 3's Christmas Sing a long

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December** – Christmas Party

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December** – last day of term and pyjama day!

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December to Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2020** – Nursery closed for Christmas

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January** – INSET Day, Nursery closed

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January** – Nursery re opens

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February** – ½ term, Nursery closed

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April to Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April** – Nursery closed for Easter holidays

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April** – INSET Day, Nursery closed

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May** – ½ term, Nursery closed

**Fri 26<sup>th</sup> June** - INSET Day – Nursery closed

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July** – Family Picnic Day and last day of term

