

October 2022

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. I will aim to send out a Newsletter once a month, however we will continue to give you updates and other pieces of information via Teachers2Parents. Please take time to read, as there will be lots of useful information and reminders.

The children have been exploring their new surroundings and especially like being in the garden. You can see that the children are working cooperatively together, taking turns, sharing and discovering their new environment!



Reminders

Bags

Please may children bring in their nursery bag on a Monday, then the bag will stay on your child's peg and be sent home on a Friday. In the bag please ensure it is stocked with the appropriate change of clothes for your child. It would be useful for these items to be **named**. If for any reason, they need changing at school, either from water/paint play, or other toileting accidents, we will send home these clothes in a small bag. Please replenish these items for us the following day. If your child is still in nappies, please bring enough of these for us to put in a named basket in the bathroom for your child. We will let you know when they run low. **Please no plastic/carrier bags for health and safety reasons.**



Jewellery

Ensure that your child is not wearing any jewellery, this includes earrings, necklaces, bracelets, etc. These can cause injury when the children are active and climbing outside. Please consider if you are going to get your ears pierced that the six weeks holiday approaching over the summer is a better time to do this.



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.

Water bottles – We are no longer going to be asking you to bring in a water bottle. We are providing water stations for the children with jugs and cups, we are finding that the children are enjoying using the water stations and drinking more.



Mobile Phones

Mobile telephones – we do not allow the use of mobile phones anywhere in the building. This includes the entrance and 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 any member of staff asks you to put it away. While you are settling your child, you may use your telephone in outside under the covered area.

Collections at home time - to safeguard your child, please ensure that we know who is collecting your child if it is going to be a different person. They also need to know the password you have given us for your child so we can be sure that it is a trusted adult.

Tissues - We also kindly ask for a donation of a box of tissues to help supplies

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. You will be able to make this donation using School Money (Information provided below).

SCHOOL Money

We have now transferred over to a cashless payment system called school money. You will receive an email from School Money asking you to register. Please may you register with this system, as all payments for extra sessions and school meals will be using SCHOOL MONEY. If you have any problems or do not receive an email then please contact Debbie in the office.



Parking

Please kindly do not park on the yellow zig zag lines outside of the Nursery. This is dangerous and interferes with the flow of traffic on the road. Please may I also remind you to be considerate for our neighbours, and not to block their driveways. There is plenty of parking for everyone, it may just mean you will have to park elsewhere and walk down.



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 iPods 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.

Covid and other illnesses – although the restrictions of Covid have started to disappear, this does not mean that the virus has. Thank you to everyone for continuing to work with us in keeping everyone safe. We are continuing to ask that everyone uses hand sanitiser before entering the building, and we are continuing to ensure that enhanced cleaning is in place.



We continue to adhere to the policies, guidance and incubation periods that are set by the UK Health Security Agency (previously Public Health England) for all illnesses and viruses and there has been an increase recently in cases of Hand Foot and Mouth disease. There are inevitable where you have lots of children working together, therefore looking for signs, symptoms and temperatures continue to be vitally important.

We are continuing to refuse attendance in school if parents have given their child Calpol, or similar paracetamol based medicine. This is because it can mask temperatures and other symptoms which we need to be able to observe so that we can restrict and control the spread of infections. We kindly ask that you support us with this.



Is your child eligible for 30 hour funded entitlement?

Working parents of 3 and 4 year olds may be eligible for an additional 15 hours per week if they are each working a minimum of 16 hours per week, equivalent to the national living wage up to a maximum of £100,000 per year. In a couple, both parents must be working/in a single parent household, the single parent must be working. For full details of eligibility please see the attached link -

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/people-and-community/families/childcare/paying/30-hours-funded-childcare-for-working-parents>

If you wish to apply or check your eligibility please use this link -

<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>

If you are eligible and wish to take full advantage of these extra 15 hours then please contact the office to check availability within the Nursery.

School Admissions

I know that a lot of you have been asking about when you need to apply for a Primary School place. If your child was born between **1 September 2018** and **31 August 2019**. The closing date for application is 15th January 2023. You can apply online through Surrey County Council website –

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/admissions/primary-junior-and-infant/apply>

I know it is a very hard decision to make where to send your child but choosing a school is like buying a house – ‘it has to feel right for you as a family’. Please make sure that you contact the schools, as many of the local schools are offering virtual tours which are very useful in helping you to make the final decision. Please do not hesitate to come and ask if you are unsure of the admissions process. Please note, we are not able to advise you on which school to choose for your child, or make preferences ourselves, however, we can advise you on the application process.

We have a Facebook and Instagram page – please follow, we are very close to meeting our target of 100 followers.



#chertseyns

Dates for your diary

Friday 21st October – INSET DAY Nursery Closed

Monday 24th October to Friday 28th October – ½ term, Nursery closed.

Monday 31st October – Nursery reopens as normal

Friday 18th November – Children in Need (more information to follow)

Thursday 8th December – Christmas Jumper Day (for Save the Children)

Friday 16th December – last day of term and pyjama day!

Monday 19th December to Monday 2nd January 2023 – Nursery closed for Christmas

Tuesday 3rd January – INSET DAY Nursery Closed

Wednesday 4th January – Term begins, Nursery Open

Monday 12th February to Friday 17th February – ½ term, Nursery closed

Monday 3rd April to Monday 17th April – Nursery closed for Easter holidays

Monday 29th May to Friday 2nd June – ½ term, Nursery closed

Friday 23rd June – INSET DAY Nursery Closed

Friday 21st July – INSET DAY Nursery Closed

** New Dates added*

(Dates are correct at time of publishing; they may be subject to change)



Amended: 06/10/2022