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Nursery Newsletter Autumn 2 2020

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Wow what a busy and exciting first half term we have had in Nursery! The children have settled in well and are getting used to nursery routines and King Potato Head's Nursery rules.

We have been working hard to support your children with developing their listening and attention skills in Nursery, with carpet times, small group phase one phonics games and group story times with props.

We have been encouraging the children's independence; the majority of children can now put their coats on! This was not the case from the beginning! They have all persevered and are proud of their achievements! All the children are able to wash and dry their hands (several times throughout the session) with soap and water.

The children are building good relationships with each other and are learning how to share resources (this is very tricky when you are 3!) We are supporting children by encouraging them to take turns, with turn taking games and activities (waiting is also challenging too). Please encourage this at home with any kind of activity, for example taking turns to brush your teeth as a family, pouring a drink, talking, playing, and taking turns in game play.

Thank you for your continued support with changes to drop off times and collection times. Can we please ask that at 3.30pm collection time, you enter the playground and come and wait at the Nursery gate straight away and exit the playground as quickly as possible. Some parents are sitting in this area and this is not permitted, thank you. Please make sure you close all gates behind you on exit, as you may have seen, after school clubs use the playground. We also ask that no mobile phones are used during this time and anytime in the playground in line with safe guarding our children on site.

Next week we shall be celebrating Diwali! If you would like to share any photos of past celebrations we would love to share them with the children at carpet time.

The Nursery Team

Term Dates

Tuesday 3rd November – Friday
18th December

Holiday:

Friday 18th December – Tuesday
5th January 2021

Monday 4th January is an INSET
day (teacher training day)

Home Learning

Would you be able to find a photo of your family at a celebration that your child can show and discuss with their peers at carpet time? Could you please write notes on the back of the photo so we can support your child if needed?

Our Learning

Our themes for Autumn 2 will be Space and Celebrations. We will be learning about:

- ★ The Planets
- ★ Astronauts and ventures to the moon
- ★ Guys Fawkes night
- ★ Remembrance Sunday
- ★ World Science Day
- ★ Diwali
- ★ Hanukah
- ★ Christmas

If there are any additional celebrations that you would like to share with us, please let us know.

Weather/Clothing

As the temperature is now dropping we ask that your child has appropriate clothing for both the inside and outside areas of Nursery. We have the Nursery door open at all times so sometimes the classroom does get chilly, so please make sure your child is wearing layers that they can remove if need be.

Please name all items of clothing, so we can return to you.

Please note - Wellington boots are not allowed to be worn inside the Nursery as they are neither practical nor safe, we ask that change your child's wellingtons before entering Nursery and make sure they have safe and practical footwear. We do not have a large supply of spare footwear for changing if your child becomes wet from water play etc, so having a spare set of shoes in their bag is a good idea especially at this time of year and throughout the winter season.

Resources to support our learning

Please could you collect natural resources and interesting finds you may come across on your weekend adventures! These are to add to our outdoor kitchen. They could be pine cones, conkers, acorns, feathers, small sticks.

We also require toilet rolls please.

Keyworker groups

Your child's keyworker has been spending individual and group time with your child to observe and assess what they can achieve and what areas of learning they may need support in. We have completed our base line assessments ready to discuss with you at Parents' Evenings in the next two weeks.

The children are assessed four times in the year, to allow us to support your child's development through the seven areas of learning.

Keeping Healthy

Please can we ask that you do not send your child into Nursery when they are feeling poorly. Unfortunately, illnesses spread very quickly in Nursery, so if your child is presenting as unwell please keep them at home until better.

If your child has a temperature please do not send them into Nursery. If a child does have a temperature we will send them home and ask them not to return until the temperature is back to normal.

Sickness and Diarrhoea can be common as we head into winter, can I please remind you that if your child presents with either or both you will be called to collect your child and we ask that you do not return until 48 hours has passed from the last bout of sickness/diarrhoea.

Let us know if your child is going to be absent via email and please contact your GP if you have any concerns about your child's health.

Also, please see the head teacher's letters on Schoolgateway and the website for information regarding Covid19.

Snack time/Lunch time

Snack time returned to normal this week and the children are learning to pour themselves a drink from a jug of either milk or water and choose what fruit/snacks they would like to eat.

Lunchtime has also changed and we now eat in the main hall with the other children in school. The children have adapted to this well and appear to be enjoying their school meals. Please see the school website to see what menu we shall be on. The children are shown photos of the food in Nursery and they choose their lunch each morning.

We continue to wash our hands extremely regularly in Nursery and before eating times.