

The Oak Tree Pre-School Newsletter

April 2019



Welcome to the Spring edition of our newsletter. As always, we are very busy in nursery and have lots of exciting things to look forward to and we would like to share these things with you.

Spring and the great outdoors

As our environment is growing and changing, and the nursery garden is starting to come to life again, we will be learning about spring and life cycles. In Pre-School to help extend our learning on this topic, later this month we will be welcoming new friends to our classroom in the form of little eggs. We will watch the eggs change over a week or so and we will consider what might be growing in the eggs.... Maybe dinosaurs, maybe unicorns or maybe little tiny baby chicks!! We will also be exploring the life cycles of frogs and have some baby tadpoles in our classroom.



We have already started planting potatoes, carrots, onions, lettuce and green beans in our vegetable patch and have spent a long time tidying our pots and planters and sweeping the garden. Next week we will be replanting rosemary, basil, parsley and chives in our herb garden.

Over the next few weeks we are replacing our old fence panels in the garden and getting nice new ones. We are spending lots of time changing our learning areas into really engaging, challenging spaces.

Please be reminded our garden is an outdoor classroom and the children explore water, corn flour, shaving foam, wet soil, sand and paint daily. For this reason it is very important for children to wear school uniform and clothes that you are happy to get messy.

Children **MUST NOT** wear good clothes as it is not our priority to keep children clean, it is our priority to ensure the children explore new experiences with ease and in comfort. Please find attached a uniform form, as all children must wear either the nursery t-shirt or jumper to nursery.



OTHER NEWS

Book bags

Please ensure children bring their book bags to nursery daily.

Spring menu

We will be introducing our new and exciting Spring menu in May, we welcome any suggestions you or your children may have regarding new dishes.

Wrap around care

We have had lots of parents asking if their older children can come into nursery during the school holidays or after school has finished on a daily basis. We do offer this service to children under 5 years old and for more details please speak to Annabel.

Social media

We are in the process of updating our social media channels and website. We will be putting photos of the children on our facebook page, on our website and internally to all parents for sharing memories and for advertising purposes only.

The photos will be of the children participating in activities and the children's names will never be displayed on any of our material.

If you do not want your child to be in the photos, please email Clare directly.



Pre-School leavers

Although this is the saddest time of the year when we say goodbye to our big children, we know they are ready for their next new chapter... big school!! We like to make our leavers concert and summer party very special for the children and the parents.

To ensure all children are included and have parts in the play, could you please let Annabel know your leaving date as soon as possible, I know lots of parents go away for the summer, so it would be most helpful if we know your holiday dates in advance. We will confirm a date and provide details of the graduation party once we have an idea of which children will be here during the summer months.

Sun cream

In the past we have always used Nivea sun cream however this year we will be using boots own sultan on the children as this has the Highest UVA star rating.

Although we are not yet in summer we do experience the odd hot day. Please be reminded it is the parent's responsibility to put sun cream on the children in the morning before they arrive at nursery and then Oak Tree staff will be re-applying the sun cream throughout the day.

We will be having a teddy bears picnic in May for our toddler children and will be inviting parents to join us for the picnic and a play and stay session, dates to follow.

Parents evening

In June we will be having our parents evening for Toddler and Pre-School parents. This is an informal opportunity for you to look through your child's learning journey and talk to your child's key person.

Easter dates

The last day at nursery will be Thursday 18th April and we will return on Tuesday 23rd April. We hope you and your families have a fantastic Easter.

Warmest Easter Wishes

Clare and the Oak Tree Team

Going Green

We are really trying to go green and are recycling every piece of material we can, please could you keep the following and bring in to nursery.

- Bottle lids
- Buttons
- Tubes- kitchen roll, foil roll
- Coleslaw/houmous pots and lids
- Butter tubs
- Cereal, tissue, rice boxes
- Yoghurt pots
- Old CDs
- Scrap material