

 **September Newsletter 2020**

Welcome

 It has been lovely to welcome everyone back to school and see so many smiling faces! The children are all settling and beginning to learn the routines. It is natural for some children to take longer to settle. Please be assured we would always phone you if we were worried about a child; we would never let a child be upset for a long period of time. This newsletter will keep you up to date with all of the latest events that are happening in the nursery and will include information about staff, reminders, curriculum etc I know we are only a few days in but the children have been remarkable at how they have come in - settled and happy - what more could anyone ask for!

Remember they take the lead from you so if you are calm and positive, they will be too!

For your peace of mind here are some of the key measures we are taking to ensure safety for everyone:

• staff are not timetabled to work in more than one bubble

• staggered start and finish times

• hand gel throughout the site

• children and staff wash hands on arrival and throughout the day

 • our rooms are well ventilated

• we are spending as much time outside as possible

Please remember that the settling in period takes up to 6 weeks. After this period, you will be able to access your child’s online journal via Famly. All details have been updated on Famly with the email address provided.

Under 2’s

The babies are working on developing an awareness of number names through their enjoyment of action rhymes and songs that relate to their experience of numbers. The older babies’ interest is being developed in toys with buttons, flaps and simple mechanisms as they begin to learn to operate them

2-3’s

2-3’s is working on all 7 areas of development by using an interdisciplinary approach wherein each planned activity is related to at least 3 areas or more. The children are offered more opportunities of using language for sharing feelings, experiences and thoughts. Simultaneously, working on their self-confidence and self-awareness. Various activities are being created to help them experiment with symbols and marks that represent numbers or letters. This lays a strong foundation for letter and number recognition.

Preschool

It is settling in time for most of the pre-schooler’s, a time to build secure relationships and bond with each other. Most of the activities planned in the preschool are parachute activities or ring games. This is designed to help team building as a part of personal development. Young pre-schooler’s learn to work, share and play together. Also, helping in boosting their confidence and building self-esteem**.**

Here are a few important reminders:

* The advice is that only one adult brings the child to school, to help with social distancing at the door and on the paths
* PLEASE remember that all adults, always, should socially distance themselves from other adults. You may wish to consider wearing a face mask whilst dropping off and collecting.
* PLEASE can you make sure that your child’s belongings are clearly named for example, sweatshirts and coats. This will greatly help your child and staff!
* PLEASE do not send your child into school with lace-up shoes, as they cannot manage these themselves and we want to avoid accidents and help them be as independent as possible
* PLEASE always telephone if your child will be off school because they are unwell. We have to complete a daily online register for the DfE and we need to know the reasons for children’s absences. If your child is sick or has diarrhoea, then you must keep them off school for 48 hours to avoid spreading the bug.
* As you are aware the symptoms suggestive of COVID-19 are:
* A new, continuous cough
* A high temperature (38.9 degrees or more)
* A loss of, or change in, smell or taste (anosmia) In a letter from ‘Public Health England’ and ‘NHS Test and Trace’, Headteachers have been urged to stop pupils, parents and staff from getting unnecessary coronavirus tests if you do not display the symptoms above, to help with the surge in demand for tests. We appreciate that this is a very difficult decision to make and that you are likely to follow the advice of your doctor.
* Keep in touch-Please download any files for child’s learning journey, as we delete the account after they have left. This has been such a wonderful way of keeping in touch and knowing what you are all up to
* Birthday celebrations-We do understand that your child’s birthday is a very important celebration for them. We always give your child a card and the class sing ‘Happy Birthday’ to them and they blow out the candles on cakes we will bake, currently. A reminder that we ask you not to send in cakes, biscuits or sweets to have in class or to send home. Thank you for your cooperation with this.
* Diary dates: Normally I would be taking great pleasure in sending you our ‘ Programme of Events’ with lots of opportunities for you to come into the setting and share in your child’s learning and workshops for you to attend. Sadly, these events are on hold, but as soon as we are back on track, we will be inviting you into the setting. In the meantime, please keep up to date by regularly looking at the news feed update on Family and responding to your child’s learning journal!
* Fees Query- Please email the manager or accounts@theorcharddaynursery.org. I will look into it and will be able to update you immediately.

There is a ‘Department for Education coronavirus (COVID-19) helpline’ which is available to answer questions about coronavirus (COVID-19) relating to education and children’s social care. Staff, parents and young people can contact this helpline by calling: Phone: 0800 046 8687 Opening hours: Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm You may be interested to read this report, published on 17th September:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-parents-and-carers-of-children-attending-out-of-school-settings-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/guidance-for-parents-and-carers-of-children-attending-out-of-school-settings-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak>

On behalf of the staff we send you our best wishes, keep safe, stay blessed and look after each other.

The Orchard Day Nursery has an open-door policy, if you have any questions please speak to management, we are always happy to help. Thank you for your continuous Support!

Erum and the Nursery Team