

Dear Families,



Wow! Where has January gone! We've been so busy that it seems to have disappeared before our eyes. January was full of bustle in the Nursery, with new families joining and children moving up to new rooms. It's wonderful to see how the children have settled into their new learning environments, gaining confidence and making good relationships.

Seasonally February is a month of Festivals including Chinese New Year, Valentines Day and Shrove Tuesday. We will be exploring how the children experience them in their own families and see them celebrated in the wider community.

If you are looking to increase your child's sessions in September please could you let me know so I can let you know what availability we have to offer and to secure your place.

Winter is here and as it gets colder please provide hats, gloves and scarves as well as a nice warm coat. Also, can you please label these to avoid them being misplaced. Thank you.

Annual fee increases will take place from 1st April 2018 and Chrissie will be working hard to calculate your new fees during February. Fees will increase by 3% (on average 19p per hour) and the Meals & Consumables Charge for Grant funded children will increase by 4p per hour. This year we will be sending the new Fee Information to you by email. If you haven't received your email by 28th February, please let me know. Ideally we would like all our families to pay by direct debit. Please pick up a direct debit form from me next time you are in the Nursery.

Warm regards

Maryanne Strickland
Nursery Manager

Indoor Outdoor Shoes

We want our children to enjoy outdoor play and experiences whatever the weather. Please bring them in with appropriate clothing for the 'Great British weather'. To support your child making the most of the outdoors, please may I ask you to bring in a pair of wellies/outdoor shoes and a pair of indoor shoes or slippers to change into. Outdoor shoes need to be suitable for walking, climbing and splashing in puddles whilst also keeping little feet warm (oversize or ill-fitting wellies can pose a hazard). Please remember too, to label all items of clothing, including footwear. Many thanks

Dates for your Diary

- **Shrove Tuesday**
13th February
- **Chinese New Year**
16th February
- **National Wildlife Day**
22nd February
- **Nursery Closed for Good Friday and Easter Monday**
30th March & 2nd April

Babies

Over the past month the Babies have enjoyed going for 'weather' walks and exploring some table top painting. We have enjoyed playing with the ICT toys and musical instruments as well. The Babies have enjoyed playing with the tin tea set in the room, we have enhanced this by adding the tin tea set to water play with cloths to wash up and having a teddy bears tea party. To make the link with the wider world the Babies enjoyed a trip to Costa and had Babyccino's with a shortbread biscuit.



Toddlers

Over the past month we have been looking at Winter where Toddlers have shown a great interest in the windy weather and have experimented with items that will blow in the wind. The Toddlers have also shown a great interest in our Winter interest table, especially the hats, gloves and scarves. We have also been looking at colour this month where we were inspired to make rainbow cakes and delicious fruit smoothies, chopping up all the fruit themselves. We have also had lots of Toddlers moving into pants so if you need any additional information on toilet training we have a toilet Home Learning Bag that can be lent out.



Transition

Over the past month, Transition have been exploring all things to do with bears, to follow on from their favourite story 'Where's My Teddy?' in response to this they have been on bear hunts to find a bear. They have showed an interest in the bear's cave we made, singing with the bears and having a teddy bear's picnic, making teddy bear's using playdough, and making teddy bear biscuits! Transition have also explored 'Goldilock's and The Three Bears', experiencing the different sized bowls, bears and chairs. This led them onto making their own porridge and having it for snack whilst reading the story.



Kindergarten

In Kindergarten this month we have been learning about healthy eating and staying healthy. We have made healthy pizzas, fruit smoothies and fruit kebabs. We have been doing observational drawings of our favourite fruit and vegetables looking closely at the shapes and colours. We have also been learning about the Dentist and keeping our teeth healthy, we have been practising brushing teeth on pretend teeth! On Fridays, six children have been visiting a local Care Home, this term they have been taking activities along with them such as making shortbread, making Scottish flags for Burns Night, puzzles and board games!

