

Dear Families,



Despite the billowing and blustery start to the New Year the children have, as always, enjoyed some interesting and exciting experiences. Over the last few months we have developed some really strong links with Moorside Nursing Home. We had a fantastic singing and games session with them and we were delighted when some of the residents joined us for our 3rd Birthday which we celebrated with a visit from Mill Cottage Farm. We were not deterred by the torrential rain and there was much splashing and giggling. Our fabulous Cook Helen made us some number three biscuits to enjoy at tea time. I cannot believe it has been three years already so a huge thank you to you all for your continued support.

Yoga has been a real hit in Transition Room and we hope to continue this for another block of sessions. French Club too has been a hit in Kindergarten. Please let me know if you would like to join the Tuesday afternoon sessions. We are also planning a Saturday morning Boogie Mites Event (see dates for your diary), please let me know if this is of interest to you so I can gauge numbers and age range.

Annual fee increases will take place from 1st April 2018 and Sarah 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 5p 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.

Best wishes

Kath Jones
Nursery Manager



Indoor Outdoor Shoes

As you are all aware we pride ourselves on being very much an indoor outdoor Nursery setting. We want our children to enjoy outdoor play and experiences whatever the weather so please bring them in with appropriate clothing for the 'Great British weather'. To further support your child making the most of the outdoors, please may I ask you to bring in a pair of wellies/outdoor shoes for play and a pair of indoor shoes or slippers to change into. A gentle reminder too, to label all items of clothing, including wellies as children often choose similar character wellies. Many thanks.

Dates for your Diary

- **5th February**
Some children move Rooms
- **13th February**
Shrove Tuesday
- **5th March**
Parent Consultations for 'Room Moved Children'
- **11th March**
Mothering Sunday
- **30th March & 2nd April**
Nursery Closed
- **Week Commencing 1st April**
Parent Consultations for all the other children
- **28th April**
Saturday Boogie Mites Event

Babies

The Babies have been developing their speech, learning new vocabulary and strengthening their Key Person bonds by using their Key Persons names. The children who are due to go to the Toddler Room have been settling in well downstairs having a variety of trials at various times throughout their Nursery day. The Babies have also been exploring pets and animals following on from the Mill Cottage Farm visit.



Toddlers

When the Toddlers returned from their Christmas break it appeared a lot of them received gifts about dinosaurs. This of course sparked an interest and began a provocation focusing on dinosaurs. This has enabled a lot of messy play to take place as the children created dinosaur habitats using resources they could find within their Room. Finding the resources for these dinosaur habitats was extended to a walk to the Moors to collect things that can be found in our natural world.



Transition

Transition have been exploring movement and transport using diggers in soil to create marks. Babies and how to care for them continues to be a popular choice for the children in Transition, this has been supported by stories about Babies and experiences based around their care. The Toddlers who are due to start in Transition have been settling well and the children have been welcoming them into their room.



Kindergarten

Kindergarten have been exploring Winter and how some animals adapt to this cold weather. The children have been interested in birds during this time and have made their own bird feeders. To support this further the children have been going up to the Baby Room roof terrace to do some bird watching and have been listening to Birdsong. Towards the end of the month Kindergarten explored Burns Night and joined with the elderly residents at Moorside Nursing Home to explore this together. A great time was had by all.

