 Cygnets Nursery Newsletter

Week Commencing: 16th January

Dear Parents/Carers

Hope you all had a lovely Christmas and New Year. A big thank you for all our lovely Christmas presents, we are extremely grateful.

We welcome seven new children this term, Adam, Jessica, Freddie, Poppy, Jacob, Jack and Reggie

Activities

During this term our focus activity topic is Winter, please see the attached planning sheet.

Clothing

Please provide extra clothing for your children so they can layer up if they are cold and please provide them with gloves and woolly hats and don’t forget plenty of spare clothes so they can change if they fall over in the mud. We access the outdoor environment all year round no matter what the weather conditions; therefore, it is important that the children have suitable clothing. Please also ensure that ALL the clothing is labelled with your child’s name including their lunch box.

Lunches

Please ensure your child’s packed lunch is only packed with items which can be opened easily, some children struggle with some items such as Frubes, little yogurt pots or reusable pots. Please ensure your child can be totally independent. A reminder that all grapes, tomatoes, and olives should be cut up and we have a no nut policy. If you give your child pasta for lunch, please ensure you do not use pesto sauce as this contains pine nuts. Please also be aware that Nutella and some cereal bars contain nuts so are also not allowed.

Flood water

This time of year the river tends to flood over the woodland area and on occasion where the staff park. Please ensure your child walks on the decking as it becomes slippery and do not allow them to run into the woods as the water is deeper than it appears. Please ensure your children are supervised at all times.

Drop off

We understand that on occasion we are all running a little bit late, due to unforeseen circumstances and the majority of the time, bad traffic. However please can you try and ensure that your child is in nursery by 9am. We sit on the carpet at this time as a group and see what the weather is doing, we have daily news, and we vote for the song of the week. Children arriving late causes disruption to the group and takes a member of staff away from caret time.

Collection

If you would like to collect your child earlier than the nursery session times and you have not already made us aware of this, please let the staff member on the door know at drop off. At lunch time we finish our lunch at 12:15pm, this gives the children that are going home a few minutes to play before going. On a number of occasions, we had parents / grandparents turning up too early. This has resulted in the child’s lunch being packed away before they have finished. This also causes disruption to the other children on the table and the staff member who is also eating their lunch.

We have a few children that go home earlier in the afternoon, and we try and ensure that they are ready to go home at the requested time, whilst the other children remain in the garden. We usually come in from the garden at 3pm. If you have not made us aware that you are doing an early collection your child will be in the garden, and you will have to wait for them to change their boots and wash their hands.

Dogs

Whilst we love seeing the family pet at nursery, some children are very nervous around dogs and do not like the sound of them barking. If you are bringing your dog to nursery please could you secure it on the wooden poles on the walk way by the staff members car and not bring it up to the nursery door.

Accidents and Incidents at Home

If your child has had an accident at home which has resulted in a bump /cut / bruise / graze / burn etc, please inform the nursery staff. You will be asked to complete an Accidents / Incident form stating how the accident occurred, where the accident occurred, who was present, and details of the injury. This will be signed and dated by the parent and the nursery staff member.

Absence / Sickness

It is the nursery policy to encourage and promote good health and hygiene for all the children in our care. This includes monitoring the children for signs and symptoms of communicable diseases such as chickenpox, measles, mumps, rubella, meningitis, hepatitis, diarrhoea, vomiting and fevers of 101ºF/38 ºC or over. Should your child be unwell or sick before the start of the nursery session, we would kindly ask you not to bring your child to nursery. Nursery is an environment for well children, and not suitable for a child who is unwell. If your child is unwell and you have administered medication, for example Calpol at home, we ask parents to keep their child at home until they are well enough to return.

If your child becomes unwell at nursery we will, with the welfare of the child in mind and, in the interests of the remaining children in the nursery, contact the parent/carer and request that the child be collected as soon as possible. We will endeavour to do all we can to comfort and reassure your child by taking them to a quiet place to rest whilst they are waiting to be collected. Whilst at nursery, if a child’s temperature reaches 38ºC parents/carers will be contacted and asked to collect their child as soon as possible. In the event of us being unable to contact parents, emergency contacts will be called. If a child is unwell at nursery a note will be made in the register as to why they have been sent home. We are aware that if a child has a temperature of over 39ºC there is an increased risk of having a seizure.

All children should attend the sessions they are booked in for. We are required by Surrey County Council to keep a register of attendance and record every non-attendance. It is the responsibility of the parent/carer to notify the nursery team by phone or text message by 9:00am to let us know the reason for the child’s non-attendance. On a day that your child is absent from the nursery and we do not hear from you by 9:00am we will send a text message, if we do not receive a reply within 30 minutes we will call to make sure everyone is ok. If we cannot get hold of you, we will call the emergency contact on the registration form.

Online games

Over the past few weeks we have seen an increase in children’s negative behaviour towards each other. For example, play fighting, inappropriate language of “you’re dead I have killed you”. Whilst talking to the children it has come to light that they appear to be engaging at home on online platforms. In particular, Roblox, which is suitable for children nine and over and Huggy Wuggy via YouTube which is classified as twelve plus and a horror. We have spoken to the children about using kind language and being kind to others and ask that you talk to them about it at home and that you remain vigilant when your child is accessing tablets / computers / phones and you watch your children to ensure the content is age appropriate.

Invoices

Payment is due by Monday 30th January

Kind regards

Mrs Gelver

Dates for your diary

Spring term

 Monday 9th January 2023 - 11th February

Half term - Monday 13th February - 17thFebruary

Spring term 2 - Monday 20th  February - Friday 31st March

Half term - Monday 3rd April - Friday 14th April

Summer term

 Monday 17th April - Friday 26th May

Group photographs – 4th May - 9am

Half term - 29th May - Friday 2nd June

Closed - Staff training day -  Friday 30th June

Summer term 2 - Monday 5th June – Thursday 20th July

Friday 21st July – School leavers party morning 9am – 12pm