



# Newsletter



**2-3s Nursery November 2017**

Dorking Nursery School and Children's Centre, West Street  
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[www.dorkingnurserychildrenscentre.org.uk](http://www.dorkingnurserychildrenscentre.org.uk)

Dear parents and carers

Not quite sure where November is going and beginning to worry that it is only 5 weeks until Christmas! As always, lots of information to tell you in our newsletter.



Have you seen our travelling art work in the local area? It has been to Dorking Library, Dorking Halls, Waitrose (where it was visited by our MP Sir Paul Beresford) and is now in its new location at Gorgeous Gerties.

Thank you so much to the FOND team for all their hard work with this. If you see it on your travels, don't forget to take a photograph or selfie with it, and share on our social media. Alternatively, just email it to me and we can do that for you. ([head@dorking.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:head@dorking.surrey.sch.uk))



Please keep reading our stories from past families, and if you have a story to share, please let us know. <http://www.dorkingnurserychildrenscentre.org.uk/news/dnsc-alumni>

## Safety first!

**Entrance gate** - the black gate at the bottom of the drive must be closed at all times. Often, little ones can go running down the drive and this leads straight out into the entrance to the car park.

**Walking to the entrance gate from West Street** - I have noticed recently that some families are arriving through the Pets Corner car park and then allowing their children to walk on the driveway to the black gate. It is vital that all families enter the drive from West Street within the silver railings adjacent to the Old House. I urge families to hold their child's hand at all times too.

**Car parking/dropping off** - there are a number of parents arriving in the car park at the beginning and end of sessions and being dropped off by a family member who is then waiting for them. Our car park is not big enough for this to happen and our spaces are reserved for families in our SEN unit or with a disabled permit. The other numbered spaces are for the residents at the Fire Station. Please use alternative car parks when being dropped off and collected and walk the short distance to nursery.

**Coats, coats, coats** - parents may not realise the amount of time their children spend outside when they are with us! They love exploring the environment outside, therefore, it is vital they have a named coat in Nursery each day - even if it looks sunny in the morning. It is also important your child is suitably dressed for the weather inside, with long sleeves and vests. Please make sure you have updated your child's 'change of clothes bag' for the season!

**Sickness - vomiting and diarrhoea!** - not the nicest subject to discuss, however, it is vital that after any sickness bug (where your child has had has sickness or diarrhoea), the Surrey policy is that your child does not return to Nursery until they have been clear of any symptoms for 48 hours. This is to stop the bugs spreading.



Our **Breakfast Club** is already proving successful! Club runs from 8am - 8.45am, therefore is ideal if you are dashing off to work! **Lunchclub** is also running now. Lunchclub is from 11.45am - 12.30pm. We only allow extensions to your child's session once they are settled in their morning session. If you are keen to extend your session, please speak to your child's key person in the first instance. Sarah in the office will be able to advise you regarding prices and terms and conditions.

### Donations

**£5 termly voluntary contribution** - thank you to those of you who have made your £5 termly contribution to the Nursery. This supports the costs of additional resources, experiences such as Woodland and the snacks provided at snack time. If you have not done so yet, we would be very grateful if you could make a donation to us so we can continue to provide the very best for your child.

**Tissues** - achool! We ask families to donate a box of tissues to us, this means more money in the budget for other things, and helps us keep noses clean!

### Fantastic FOND

You should have received a Parentmail over the weekend explain the Christmas Fundraising activities. FOND are holding a raffle, therefore any donations for prizes or the hamper are gratefully received. They would also like Food Bank donations too. Check out the FOND fundraising page on Facebook for more information.



Thank you so much to two parents, Sandra Wilks and Sophie Carter who both did the NUTS challenge, they collectively raised £255 for FOND! We are so grateful. If you are about to do a crazy sponsored challenge, why not consider us for your sponsorship!



## Tapestry

We almost have all our families logged in and signed up with a Tapestry account. Please make sure you do this if you have not already. We will be sharing photographs and observations of your child with you.



## From the nursery

In group time the children were having the story of Goldilocks, with props! When the adult asked "Does anyone know who this girl is with the long blonde hair?" one of the children replied; "I know - it's Dolly Parton"!



## Mud, glorious mud!

We are doing lots of "messy" activities - one of which is working in the mud kitchen. We do our best to protect your children's clothes with waterproofs and wellies but mud, water and sand will still travel up sleeves and into boots!

### Why is mud play so important?

There is a wealth of learning involved in playing with mud -

**Maths** - measuring, exploring capacity and quantity, filling, emptying, estimating

**Science** - combining and changing materials, recognising cause and effect, developing theories and making connections

**Language** - imaginative and descriptive language, story-telling, questioning, creative thinking

**Social** - working alongside others to share space and resources or working collaboratively, sharing imagination, valuing each others ideas.

Playing in mud can also help you relax and feel calm. This is caused by the harmless microscopic bacteria in mud that increases the serotonin in our brains, which makes us feel happier. The release of serotonin also improves cognitive function (thinking skills) and the bacteria helps to build a healthy immune system.

Developing curiosity, fascination and the pleasure of finding out for themselves is hugely important to young children. It gives them a feeling of control and self-worth ..... and it's lots of fun!



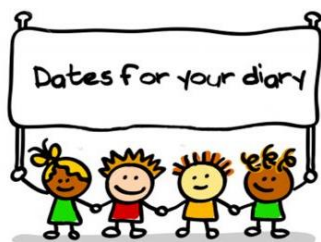
### **Welcome to our new Governor**

Welcome to Mary McCrea who joins our Governing Body as a Co-opted Governor. Mary joins the team and brings a wealth of experience from her career to the board. We have a vacancy for a parent governor, there will be a letter coming out soon to parents about this.

## Christmas

There will be a few changes at the end of term due to festive fun! A separate letter will follow soon with all the details.

Our Christmas lunch will be on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December. This is available to all children who are already staying and settled for lunch. Please speak to Sarah if you want your child to book in for this.



### Dates for your diary

For all the latest information - don't forget to follow us on social media!

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas lunch  
Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December or Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December - 2-3s  
Christmas Celebration - more details to follow

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December - Pyjama Day - more details to follow

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December - last day of Nursery before Christmas

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December - Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January - Nursery closed for Christmas

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2018 - Nursery reopens

Regards  
Donna Harwood-Duffy  
Headteacher

National Support School  
designated by



National College for  
Teaching & Leadership

