



Newsletter



2-3s Nursery October 2017

Dorking Nursery School and Children's Centre, West Street
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Dear parents and carers

We are already in October and 4 weeks into the term. The children have settled so well so far - I am sure you are proud of how they are doing. Please read this newsletter carefully for any information and dates that you may not be aware of. There are lots of 'start of term' reminders!

We are moving into the 21st Century here at Dorking Nursery and CC with a variety of social media accounts! Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. (I have to be honest, I am learning both Twitter and Instagram!) Our social media will be one of the quickest ways of sharing information and updates with you.



We are also using it to 'spread the word' about our Nursery and CC. We have recently discovered that many families (including current ones) do not realise how we are unique and the only maintained nursery school in the area. To support this, we are sharing stories to demonstrate the impact that the Nursery and CC has on families lives. Have you read the alumni stories on our website?



<http://www.dorkingnurserychildrenscentre.org.uk/news/dnsc-alumni>

If you were an ex-DNSCC pupil, know someone who was, or have a memory or story to share, please let me know as we would love to hear from you!

Dorking children go gilliangladrag-fluffatorium crazy!

We have been working with Gilliangladrag Fluffatorium in West Street to create a felt wall hanging. It is currently on display in the Dorking Library - please check it out!! Take a



photo of your child next to it and email it into me to share on our Facebook page (head@dorking.surrey.sch.uk) or share it on social media with the hashtag #WeareDorking!



Keep your eyes peeled - where will it end up next!!!



We welcome Steph to our staff team! Steph joins us from a local Surrey school and is one of our qualified teachers in the 3-5s nursery. We will be shortly sharing staff blogs on the website and social media - so watch this space!



Ensuring the safety of your child is paramount. The following reminders are for your child's safety:-

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.

Hot drinks and mobile phones - are not permitted inside the building. Please do not be offended if the office staff do not allow you through the door with a drink or talking on your phone.

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.

Sickness - vomiting and diarrhoea! - not the nicest subject to discuss, however, it is vital that after any sickness bug (where your child has had 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** launched last week and 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.

Thanks for Donating!

Sadly, our school budget is getting smaller each year. The large majority of the budget we are given by the local authority is spent on the wonderful staff at the Nursery and CC. Therefore, we rely heavily on donations and fundraising to enable us to provide the opportunities your child is experiencing.

£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 - FOND are our fundraising charitable organisation. They have just made a donation to the Nursery and CC of £3,000! This is being spent on outside resources for the children to enjoy. The committee want to raise more! If you can help or have any ideas, please join the fundraising team at the Nursery on Friday 13th October, just after morning drop off!



Last year, one of our parents, Sam Walters did the London Ride 100 in aid of our Nursery and CC - he raised over £600! Look out for Sam's story this week on Facebook and our website. Are you or someone you know looking for a charity for a sponsored event? If so, how about doing it for the children of Dorking Nursery and CC!



TAPESTRY

ONLINE LEARNING JOURNAL

You will have recently received an automated email from TAPESTRY, asking you to set up your account. We are using Tapestry this year to share photographs and observations of your child with you. This is a secure site, where you need a log in to be able to access the account. You can also download an app to access it more easily on your smartphone. If you have not yet received your email, or been unsuccessful in activating your account, please let your key person know as we can easily reset it.

Staff are using iPods and iPads to take images of your child. I can assure you these are Nursery owned devices which do not leave the building. They are secure on our network. Although they may look like the staff are on phones and other devices, it would be a breach of their contract to do so. Your child's safety is paramount.

From the nursery - Showing empathy!

Recently, a child and adult were observing a spider in the garden. The spider ran around the web and hid in some leaves! When the adult asked "I wonder why he's hiding?" the child replied; "He's shy!"

Parent consultations

Within the next few weeks you will be receiving an invitation to meet with your key person. This is a great opportunity to share information on how your child is settling and confirm that you and your child are happy! It is quite a logistical task to organise the consultations so that there are enough adults back in the nursery; so we ask you to make every effort to make the allocated time.

Dates for your diary

Friday 13th October - FOND Meeting, West Street site, just after drop off!

Friday 20th October - last day of Nursery for half term

Monday 23rd October - Friday 27th October - Nursery Closed

Monday 30th October - Nursery Closed for staff training

Tuesday 31st October - Nursery reopens

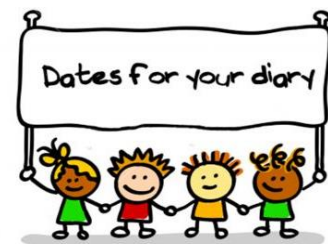
Monday 18th December or Tuesday 19th December - 2-3s Christmas Celebration - more details to follow

Thursday 21st December - Pyjama Day - more details to follow

Thursday 21st December - last day of Nursery before Christmas

Friday 22nd December - Wednesday 3rd January - Nursery closed for Christmas

Thursday 4th January 2018 - Nursery reopens



Regards

Donna Harwood-Duffy
Headteacher

National Support School
designated by



National College for
Teaching & Leadership

