



Newsletter



3-5s Nursery May 2018

Dorking Nursery School and Children's Centre, West Street
Dorking, Surrey, RH4 1BY, Tel: 01306 882397
www.dorkingnurserychildrenscentre.org.uk

Dear parents and carers

April showers bring May flowers...and sunshine? Fingers crossed. The summer term has made a flying start and we are already in our third week of the half term.

Next Monday (7th) is Bank Holiday, therefore, Nursery is closed for the day, we will return on the 8th - have a wonderful long weekend. We also break up for half term on Friday 25th May for a week, so add that date in your diaries too!



Monday 7th May - May Bank Holiday - Nursery Closed

Tuesday 8th May - Sponsored Week

Friday 18th May - Royal Wedding Day - see details

Monday 28th May - **Friday 1st June** - Nursery Closed

Thursday 28th June - Getting Ready for School Evening

Friday 29th June - INSET Day - Nursery Closed

Wednesday 11th July - End of year reports to parents

Thursday 19th July - last day of nursery sessions

Friday 20th July - Family Picnic - 10.30am - 12noon

*New dates added!

Transition to School

You will all know by now which school your child will be transferring to for September. If you have not done so, please can you let the office know, this is so that we can begin liaising with them regarding your child. We will be meeting all the reception teachers during the term and also make books to share with the children.

As part of the transition, we invite you all to a 'Getting Ready for School' evening on Thursday 28th June at 7pm. We will talk to you about the range of things you can do to prepare your child for the move to 'big school' as well as what we do in Nursery.

Don't forget your £5 termly donation for the summer term!

Breakfast and Lunchclub

If your child does not currently attend Nursery all day, you might want to consider a lunch club, or extended day. This will support them to get used to a longer day in September. This will support the transition for your child so that their experiences are not all 'new' at the same time. If you would like your child to attend lunch club, it is from 11.45am - 12.30pm each day and costs £8.50 which includes the price of the hot meal.

Don't forget about Breakfast Club, open from 8am - 8.45am each morning. £5 per session. Please talk to Sarah if you are interested. We are hosting a special 'Royal Wedding Breakfast (Club)' on Friday 18th May.

Royal Wedding Day

We will be celebrating the Royal Wedding on Friday 18th May. The children will be doing a variety of red, white and blue activities in the week leading up to it, and we invite them to wear something in those colours too! FOND will be holding a 'bake off' cake sale, so we invite you all to bake (or bring) cakes in that morning for the sale. If you are able to spare half an hour during the day to support the team to sell the cakes, they will be very grateful.

Sponsored Week

You recently received a letter about our sponsored week beginning the 8th May. The children will be completing a series of obstacle challenges in the garden throughout the week. They will receive a certificate for their efforts and ask that you sponsor them using the sponsor form or Just Giving - by texting OBST18 and your amount to 70070. Last year we raised £600 to support purchasing new outdoor resources, so it would be great to beat this!

Safety first

A newsletter would not be a newsletter without some form of reminder! Now that the warmer weather is here (almost); please can you take note of the following policy:-

1. The children need to wear a hat outside, please either provide your own for your child (named) or they will be asked to wear a nursery one
2. Sunglasses are not permitted
3. Open toe shoes, sandals or crocs are not permitted
4. Long floaty dresses/skirts and vest tops are not advised - shorts, t shirts and trainers are advisable
5. Please put sunscreen on your child before the session
6. Please bring jumpers, hoodies or a cardigan, even if you think it is sunny, it could still be chilly if they are outside for a long period of time.

You may have seen in the National Press about the rise in the oak processionary moth. Please be aware of these types of caterpillar when exploring the woods locally with your children. They can cause asthma attacks, rashes and vomiting, as well as fever and eye irritation.



Support for the Children's Centre

We continue to liaise with Surrey regarding the future of our Children's Centre here at Dorking. Surrey is looking to cut funding, which will impact on our budget significantly, and therefore the services we can provide for our families. If you have not done so yet, please sign the national and Surrey petitions - details on our website -

<http://www.dorkingnurserychildrenscentre.org.uk/news/childrens-centre-campaign>

There is due to be a public consultation in the summer, so we will need you all to voice your views then. Myself and Helen (Children's Centre Manager) have been lobbying locally councillors, MP and cabinet members.

Thank you thank you thank you!

Thanks to those who came during the Easter holidays to help empty the sandpit in the 3-5s Nursery, Neyte (Bella's mum), Alina (Mia's mum) and Sophie (Noah's mum) were amazing with a wheelbarrow and shovel! We are so grateful! This Friday, we have 10 tonnes of sand being delivered to go into the sandpit. The wonderful team at Maguire Conservation have offered to fill the sandpit for us this week - massive thanks in advance for them!



Thanks also to JS Associates for voiding his cheque for £208.56! We used this money to buy some 'building' resources for the children. Every little really helps! The children have loved using these, especially experimenting with the spirit levels!



Massive well done to the Cassidy family who participated in Mud Kids during the Easter holidays. The whole family took part (even with a piggy back or two!) and medals were proudly shown off at Nursery. They raised £133. Massive thanks again to the entire Cassidy family for thinking of us and competing for us.



Forest School

From Joanna...our Forest School Lead

I think it's fair to say that we have seen all the seasons in the last week at forest school. I have been so impressed at how the children have not only coped with the torrential rain we have at times experienced, but also appeared oblivious of it. On Friday afternoon the rain was pouring off Bella's glasses as she was exploring the tadpoles in the pond, she simply took them off stating "Well I can't see anything with all the rain on them." She then immediately returned to her explorations! The children have loved seeing the progress of the frogspawn, "Oh, they've gone, the eggs have hatched!" We are lucky to have literally thousands of wriggling tadpoles, all quite happy to be observed. The children have used the



"underwater sheets" to identify the other findings in their nets. We have seen a freshwater hog louse, which "has so many legs, much more than we've got, we've only got 2!" Freshwater shrimps, dragonfly nymphs, pond skaters, water boatmen, mayflower nymphs and even the odd leach or 2, "Oh look, it stretches and then comes back, stretches and then comes back." We have also perfected the art of peeling carrots, using skills that can develop over the years, "Start at the top and go down, turn it a bit and go down", "We don't want any peeled thumbs!" Many children discovered how amazing carrots taste when you are in the Forest School garden, and have crunched their way through them. Please take a look on Tapestry for your child's photos, the last 2 sessions are Thursday and the sun is currently shining, what a novelty that is!

The children will have one last visit to Forest School next month, if you haven't yet volunteered and would like a turn before the end of the Summer then do please give your name to Sarah, it really is a wonderful opportunity for the children and one that can only exist with the support of our wonderful volunteers who have helped in all weathers all year, thank you, we could not provide these opportunities for the children with your support.



Donna Harwood-Duffy
Headteacher



National Support School
designated by
National College for
Teaching & Leadership

