



# Newsletter

## 3-5s Nursery December 2018

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



Dear parents and carers

December has arrived and we can finally begin to use the 'C' word (Christmas) with the children. You should have received your Festive letter informing you of the dates and events coming up. The 3-5s Sing-a-long is a really special event and it is important that each child has a member of their family there to share the experience with. If you have any problems or are unsure of your dates and times, just ask Joanna, Steph or a member of the office team.



The 3-5s team started Christmas with a bang last week when they acted out their traditional 'Nativity' for the children! Can you spot all the stars of the show!



**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December** - 3-5s Sing a long  
(see separate letter for timings)

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December** - Christmas Jumper Day  
in aid of Save the Children

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December** - Christmas Party  
(NO normal sessions - see separate letter for  
your party)

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December** - last day of term  
and pyjama day!

**Thurs 20<sup>th</sup> December to Friday 4<sup>th</sup> January** -  
Nursery closed for Christmas

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January** - Nursery re opens

**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> January** - School admissions  
deadline

**Fri 28<sup>th</sup> June** - INSET Day - Nursery closed

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July** - last day of Nursery  
sessions

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July** - Leavers Picnic

\*New dates added

**Save the Children** - We will be supporting  
Save the Children Christmas Jumper day on  
Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December. Please donate £1 in  
return for your child wearing their festive  
clothing. The staff will be wearing theirs  
too!



**Christmas Raffle** - Tickets are on sale for  
the FOND Raffle. They are £1 each and  
some great prizes are up for grabs! Don't  
forget to purchase your tickets before its  
too late.

**Admissions for school** - If you have not completed your application for primary school, it is vital that you do so before the 15<sup>th</sup> January deadline. I urge you to use all the choices you have and choose at least one realistic school. We are not able to recommend schools to you, but would suggest you make the time to visit ones you are considering. If you have any problems completing the form, just let us know, Sarah or Sarah in the office will be able to help you.



**Forest School** - We had such a wonderful time at Forest School thanks to our friends at Scotts Tree Surgery for helping to tidy up our garden and to all the grown ups who volunteered!

The children really enjoyed their first visit to Forest School. They were happy to learn new games and even found a 'magic tunnel' to crawl through whilst exploring the garden. The pond was somewhat lacking in creatures at this time of year however we still found some willing pond snails as well as a freshwater hog louse! A game to identify which creatures might live in our woods brought about some optimistic suggestions including monkeys, zebras and huge snakes! Although the children were also keen to share their knowledge of

hibernating creatures and those that live under the ground.

A delightful story about BB, our Forest School dragon (you will need to ask the children why he is called BB) resulted in some creative animal dens being made as well as bird tables being improvised!

Finally, no Forest School would be complete without the option of hot chocolate or warm juice, served this time with cow biscuits (malted milks for those who are

unfamiliar with the term) and pom bears. We will be off to

Forest School again in January - 23<sup>rd</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>, so if you didn't get a chance to volunteer this time then perhaps book the date now and sort your hats and gloves out as we will probably be needing them.



**Car parking/dropping off** - there continue to be a very small number of parents 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, or parking in the residents bays for the flats. 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. Please use alternative car parks when being dropped off and collected and walk the short distance to nursery.

We have also been asked by Pet's Corner to remind parents not to use their car park as this is for their customers only. Parents have previously received penalty notices for parking there.

**Attendance** - please remember to call us if your child will be absent for illness or appointments. Sarah will call to follow up all unexplained absences and if we are unable to contact you, we will then make contact with your emergency numbers.

Regular attendance is very important, especially as your child attends in a funded place. Places can be withdrawn by the Governing body if there is not a good pattern of attendance. We are extremely oversubscribed, therefore, we ask those of you who have been fortunate to be allocated a place to make every effort to attend.

**Late pick up** - We have a number of families who are consistently late collecting their child at both 11.45am and 3.30pm. This not only has an impact on your child, often feeling somewhat unsettled when they are the last to leave, but the team also have meetings to attend as soon as the children go. Please make every effort to be on time at the end of the session.

**Children's Centre Consultation** - Thank you so much to those who have completed the consultation already and shown their support for the Children's Centre. The consultation is open until Friday 4<sup>th</sup> January, so there is still time to do so. Our news page on our website has lots of information on it you to help you - please visit it and read carefully.

<http://www.dorkingnurserychildrenscentre.org.uk/news/childrens-centre-consultation-help-us-help-you>

We are attending the Local Council Meeting on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December, 1.30pm, and asking parents to join us outside and in the chambers for the meeting. The more the merrier - if you are able to, please come along.

**Visit to The Almshouses** - we were invited to the Dorking Almshouses to read stories and play games with some of the residents. We took 3 children for the first visit! It was wonderful to see so many smiles on both the resident's and the children's faces!



Regards  
Donna Harwood-Duffy  
Headteacher

National Support School  
designated by  
  
National College for  
Teaching & Leadership



# We are  
Dorking

