



Newsletter



3-5s Nursery November 2017

Dorking Nursery School and Children's Centre, West Street
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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)



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 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 normal 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 Forest School, cooking and a wide range of malleable resources. 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.



School open days

I hope by now you will have visited local schools for their Open Mornings. Primary School Admission deadline is 15th January 2018. Please make sure you submit it in time and let us know if you need help.

I advise all our families with children in the SEN unit to make a mainstream application.



Voice of the child



Last week I was having lunch with a group of children who were fascinated by my glittery poppy for Remembrance Day. This led to a discussion about why we wear poppies. I explained it was to remember the soldiers. Noah replied; "oh yes! Like Captain America...I am going to remember him"! (I have to say, he is my favourite Avenger too!)



Forest School fun!

The children are embarking on their first set of Forest School Adventures this week. They are learning new games which focus on discovering the Forest School environment by using their senses. They are exploring the pond, where the adults were astonished to find tadpoles, Mia found it really difficult to believe they would grow and

change into frogs! "Really? How is that going to happen?" she asked.



They have been building mini dens for the woodland creatures, bug hunting using magnifying glasses and bug charts. And of course, no trip to Forest school is complete without drinking hot chocolate!



Thank you to every single volunteer who has given up a few hours of their time to help out at Forest School. It really is not possible without you!

Some fabulous quotes from the children this week...!

"In my country, mice like dark places"

"Our rabbits can be rabbit neighbours!"

"I saw the tadpoles in 'Joanna's' garden!"



Polite request

We would really appreciate it if parents avoid having food and snacks in their pockets ready to give their children as they leave nursery. This is discouraging the children from trying new tastes and eating the fruit and lunches provided at nursery as they know they will get something they like very soon. Thank you in advance.



Staffing update

Last week we sadly said goodbye to Charlotte, one of our Nursery Nurses after working with us for 20 years. Charlotte has decided it is time for a change in her life and to spend more time with her family. Luckily for us; however, staff never really leave Dorking Nursery and Children's Centre and she will be joining our bank staff team, you may have already seen her back in the nursery this week.

Charlotte said 'I have been really proud to be a member of the staff team here at DNSCC and love telling people I work here as

everyone wants the best for the children!' The children made Charlotte a 'Little Book of Glitter' (one of her favourite things!)



We also welcome back Natasa to the team. Natasa is one of our Nursery Nurses and she has not been here since the start of term. Natasa is building up the number of days she works each week and will be back with us full time by the end of the month. Welcome back Natasa, we have all missed you.



Welcome to our new Governor

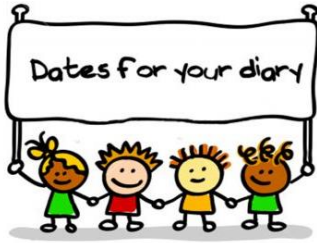
Welcome to Mary McCrea who joins our Governing Body as a Co-opted Governor. Mary joins the team and brings a wealth of experience from her career to the board. We have a vacancy for a parent governor, there will be a letter coming out soon to parents about this.

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 13th 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 13th December - Christmas lunch - only for children settled into lunch club

Friday 15th December - 3-5s Sing a long - more details to follow

Wednesday 20th December - 3-5s Christmas party! - 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

