



# Newsletter



**3-5s Nursery November 2019**

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

Half term has been and gone, along with Bonfire Night and we are literally counting down the days until Christmas, although we don't like to mention the 'C' word too early. The children continue to amaze us each day with all the new things they are learning.

Lots of you have been very busy visiting local primary schools to make your decision about school entry for next September. Please make sure you complete your application by the 15<sup>th</sup> January. Late applications will impact on your preferences. Please can I stress to all parents to ensure that you make realistic choices for your preferences to avoid being allocated a school that is not on your list. If you need any help completing your form, just let us know.



**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December** - Christmas Jumper Day (for Save the Children) and Family Sing-a-long - more details to follow!

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December** - Christmas Party! - more details to follow, please note there will not be any normal nursery sessions on this date.

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December** - last day of term and pyjama day! - **PLEASE NOTE - there will be no hot lunch on this day, a special lunch will be available for those who stay for lunch!**

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December to Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2020** - Nursery closed for Christmas

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January** - First day of term - note change of date, previously was INSET Day

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January** - INSET Day, Nursery closed - **PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE**

**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January** - Zoolab - more details to follow next term

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February** -  $\frac{1}{2}$  term, Nursery closed

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February** - INSET DAY, Nursery closed - **PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE**

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April to Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April** - Nursery closed for Easter holidays

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April** - First day of term - **PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE**

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May** -  $\frac{1}{2}$  term, Nursery closed

**Fri 26<sup>th</sup> June** - INSET Day - Nursery closed

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July** - Family Picnic Day and last day of term

## **POLITE REMINDERS**

**Parent Meetings** - we meet with parents to discuss your child's progress. We dedicate approximately 20-30 minutes for each meeting and this impacts on the cover arrangements and staffing in the classroom. Therefore, if you are unable to attend on a Monday (the day we put cover in place), please can you let the office know with days and times that are good for you, we will always do our best to accommodate, however, it takes a significant amount of time to reschedule.

**Lateness and timekeeping** - the register closes in the morning at either 9.15am or 9.45am (depending on your session), or 12.45pm in the afternoon. There are a number of parents arriving past these times to drop off children. It is extremely disruptive for the children and the routine to have parents continually coming into the classroom, please can we ask you to make an effort to ensure your child arrives on time.

**Late collection** - there are also a significant number of parents arriving late to collect their children. Sessions end at 11.45am or 3.30pm. **Please be on time**. It is very unsettling for the children to be the last one collected and the staff are also timetabled for meetings and other activities at the end of sessions. Therefore it has an impact. The Governors are considering introducing a late charge.

If another adult is collecting your child, please let us know and ensure they have your password. Please note, if we do not hear from you, and passwords are not known, we will not be allowing your child to leave. Surrey policy states that if a child is not collected and we are unable to contact yourselves or your emergency contacts, the police and social services must be called.

It is so important that the children establish good, regular routines and arrive on time, and any child having a lunch must be with us or the office informed by 9.30am so it can be ordered.

## What's been happening at Nursery?

The children are currently enjoying their first visit to Forest School. They have been happy to learn new games and even found an overgrown 'magic tunnel' to crawl through whilst exploring the garden. Some found the magnifying glasses and went in search of bugs, a few of us were keen to hold them for a closer look. They discovered lots of logs; the 'bag log', (no prizes for guessing what we use this log for), long logs to climb on or hide behind and small ones to sit on.

A game to identify which creatures might live in our local woods brought about some optimistic suggestions including zebras and lions! 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.



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) or oat biscuits. A huge thank you to all our volunteers, without you Forest School could not happen so we are very grateful for the time you have given us. We will be off to Forest School again in January - Wednesday 15th, Friday 17th and Monday 20th, 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.



## Nursery Rhyme Week

Research shows; If children know 8 nursery rhymes by heart by the age of 4, they are some of the best readers and spellers in their class by the time they are 8!

Nursery Rhyme Week promotes the importance of nursery rhymes in early childhood development. There is a rhyme a day!

To find out more visit <https://www.worldnurseryrhymeweek.com/>

## Christmas

You will soon be receiving a letter with more information about Christmas events for your child. There will be different timings and dates to make a note of, so please read it carefully.

**Snacks and food** - we have a number of children (and adults) with a variety of food allergies - some of which are life threatening. There are a number of parents allowing their children to arrive eating a snack, or leave a snack in their child's peg in the cloakroom. There should be no food other than fruit being brought into the building.

## Parking

Thank you so much to all the parents and carers who are using off site car parks. It is very much appreciated!

**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, hat and gloves in Nursery each day - even if it looks sunny in the morning.

**Change of clothes** - please dress your child in comfortable flexible clothing. Elastic waists are best for young children to be independent. A change of clothes in your child's bag is vital.

**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. This has also recently impacted on the staff as they too are getting ill, if there is a significant staffing absence, then it could result in Nursery having to be closed if we are unable to keep to legal staffing ratios.

### **Tapestry**

Don't forget to set up your Tapestry account, you will have been sent an automated email to do so. Staff will put a photo and observation on every couple of weeks of your child at Nursery - a great way for you to see what they are up to. If you are having trouble creating your account in any way, then just let us know.



If you have any questions to ask us please talk to your key person or another member of staff!

Regards  
Donna Harwood-Duffy  
Headteacher

National Support School  
designated by  
  
National College for  
Teaching & Leadership

