

## October 2021

#### **Dear Parents**

Welcome to the first Newsletter of the school year for Chertsey Nursery School. It has been an absolute delight and pleasure to welcome you and your children into the Nursery. The team at Chertsey have been enjoying finding out about the new children and welcoming back our returners. They are all settling well into nursery life.

Our Newsletters aim to give you important information about the Nursery and the experiences your children will have. I will aim to send out a Newsletter once a month, however we will continue to give you updates and other pieces of information via Teachers2Parents. Please take time to read, as there will be lots of useful information and reminders.

The children have been exploring their new surroundings and especially like being in the garden. You can see that the children are working cooperatively together, taking turns, sharing and discovering their new environment!



Thank you also to those of you who have read carefully our Covid procedures for the current Term. With us having close contact with individuals at drop off and pick-ups, in order to keep everyone safe we are re-introducing that everyone wears a face covering during these times as a temporary measure due to the current rise in COVID cases. We will review this again over the next coming weeks.



Please may I remind you that: -

- Everyone dropping off or picking up children wear a face covering.
- Everyone entering the building must use hand sanitiser on arrival and we ask that you clean your hands and also your child's.
- Please make sure that you are waiting on the lines so that we can ensure social distancing.
- Now that the children have been settled in Nursery, parents are asked to leave following the one way system in place.
- End of session pick up in order to minimise contact, parents will not be entering the building to collect their child. Parents will be asked to wait at their allocated door and children will be brought out to you. You will then need to follow the 'one way' system to leave the premises. Please note, if you have a child/sibling with you please may you make sure that they stay with you and not play on the equipment. I know that it is very inviting for other children, however it does mean that due to the current situation we are in, we have to remove the item of equipment from use for cleaning to ensure we are following government guidelines.

### **Bags**

Please may children bring in their nursery bag on a Monday, then the bag will stay on your child's peg and be sent home on a Friday. In the bag please ensure it is stocked with the appropriate change of clothes for your child. It would be useful for these items to be named. If for any reason, they need changing at school, either from water/paint play, or other toileting accidents, we will send home these clothes in a small bag. Please replenish these items for us the following day. We will not be having bags travelling into and out of school each day to prevent contamination. If your child is still in nappies, please bring enough of these for us to put in a named basket in the bathroom for your child. We will let you know when they run low. Please no plastic/carrier bags for health and safety reasons.

#### **Jewellery**

There are a few children wearing necklaces & earrings. Please may I remind you that children must not be wearing necklaces or earrings as it is a safety hazard and part of our Health and Safety policy that they are not worn at nursery.



**Fruit** – please bring a piece of fruit for the fruit bowl a couple of times a week. This is shared with the children at snack time.



#### **Mobile Phones**

Mobile telephones – we do not allow the use of mobile phones anywhere in the building. This includes the entrance and corridors when waiting to collect your children. This is part of our safeguarding policy to protect ALL children. I ask Debbie and Lisa in the office not to allow any parents, carers or visitors to enter the building



if on their telephones. Please therefore, do not be offended if any member of staff asks you to put it away. While you are settling your child, you may use your telephone in outside under the covered area.

Sadly, our school budget is getting smaller each year. The large majority of the budget that we are given by the local authority is spent on the wonderful staff at the Nursery. 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 resources to make playdough, cooking, etc. 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. You will be able to make this donation using School Money (Information provided below).

#### **SCHOOL Money**

We have now transferred over to a cashless payment system called school money. You will receive an email from School Money asking you to register. Please may you register with this system, as all payments for extra sessions and school meals will be using SCHOOL MONEY. If you have any problems or do not receive an email then please contact Debbie in the office.



#### **Parking**

Please kindly do not park on the yellow zig zag lines outside of the Nursery. This is dangerous and interferes with the flow of traffic on the road. Please may I also remind you to be considerate for our neighbours, and not to block their driveways. There is plenty of parking for everyone, it may just mean you will have to park elsewhere and walk down.



If you are new to us, you will have recently received an automated email from TAPESTRY, asking you to set up your account. We are using Tapestry 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.

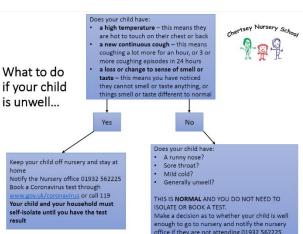
Staff are using iPads/Android tablets to take images of your child. I can assure you these are Nursery owned devices, which do not leave the building. They are secure on our network. Although they may look like the staff are on phones and other devices, it would be a breach of their contract to do so.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

**Illness and absence** – this is a subject that is talked about frequently at the moment. We follow the PHE guidance at all times with regards to all childhood illnesses, as well as the incubation periods for them.

Your child will get poorly; colds, runny noses, sore throats, sickness and diarrhoea are all viruses that children will develop that help them to build up their immunity and stay healthy. However, at the moment, we have to be cautious when your child has the Covid-19 symptoms.

If at any time your child has a high temperature, new continuous cough or loss of taste or smell, they must begin a self-isolation period and request a full PCR Covid-19 test (Not LFD). Please follow the flow chart sent home to you previously.

Covid-19 will be with us for some time and we will continue to do as much as possible to ensure consistency for your family and children, however, we also have contingency plans in place should another national or local lockdown take place. We do appreciate the disruption this will cause and we will do everything we can to keep this to a minimum.



Please remember that if you have given your child Calpol or any type of paracetamol/ ibuprofen in the morning you need to keep them off Nursery for the day. These medicines can mask Covid symptoms.

# **Dates for your diary**

**Thursday 21**st **October** – Last Day of Term, normal finish times

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October to Friday 29<sup>th</sup> October – ½ term, Nursery closed.

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> November – INSET DAY Nursery Closed

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December** – Christmas Jumper Day (for Save the Children)

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December – last day of term and pyjama day!

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> December to Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2021 – Nursery closed for Christmas

Tuesday 4th January – INSET DAY Nursery Closed

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January – Term begins, Nursery Open

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February – ½ term, Nursery closed

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April to Monday 18<sup>th</sup> April – Nursery closed for Easter holidays

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June – ½ term, Nursery closed

Friday 24th June – INSET DAY Nursery Closed

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July – INSET DAY Nursery Closed

(Dates are correct at time of publishing; they may be subject to change)

Amended: 01/10/2021

<sup>\*</sup> New Dates added