

September 2023

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.

Over the summer there have been lots of developments within the nursery from new toilets in the 2-3s provision, a new library area and outside environment updated within the 3-5s. A huge thank you to the Governing Body for agreeing to fund these works, so that the children's provision is enhanced to promote greater outcomes. As you can see from the photos below the children are enjoying all of the new resources and areas.





Coffee Morning & Afternoon Tea

Please come along to our welcome Coffee morning or Afternoon tea on **Friday 6th October**. This will be an opportunity for you to meet new parents and a couple members of the team over a cup of coffee or tea.

Coffee morning at 8.30am on Friday 6th October

Afternoon tea at 2.30pm on Friday 6th October

Reminders

Spare clothes - please ensure your child has a change of clothes on their peg. We encourage your child to get messy and dirty at nursery and sometimes they need to be changed. Young children often have accidents and need to be changed. They are much more comfortable in their own clothes rather than our spare ones. Spare clothes should be in a rucksack type bag on your child's peg. 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

Ensure that your child is not wearing any jewellery, this includes earrings, necklaces, bracelets, etc. These can cause injury when the children are active and climbing outside. Please may I remind you that you have signed to say that you agree to remove items of jewellery within your admissions form.



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. Please may I ask that you do not send in Mango or Kiwi as we have children who have allergies to these.

Water bottles – No water bottles needed. We are providing water stations for the children with jugs and cups, we are finding that the children are enjoying using the water stations and drinking more. The task of pouring out their own cup of water, helps children coordinate their hand movements with what they are seeing and feeling.

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.



Mobile Phones

Mobile telephones – we do not allow the use of mobile phones anywhere in the building. This includes the entrance and 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.



Collections at home time - to safeguard your child, please ensure that we know who is collecting your child if it is going to be a different person. They also need to know the password you have given us for your child so we can be sure that it is a trusted adult.

Tissues - We also kindly ask for a donation of a box of tissues to help supplies

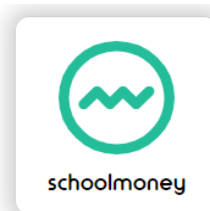


Sadly, our school budget is getting smaller each year. The large majority of the budget that we are given by the local authority is spent on the wonderful staff at the Nursery. Therefore, we rely heavily on donations and fundraising to enable us to provide the opportunities your child is experiencing.

£10 termly voluntary contribution – thank you to those of you who have made your 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. Once a month you will be getting a post about your child from their key worker. 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 iPods 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.

Illnesses –



It is the season when children are back in Nursery, where there are lots of colds and coughs. We continue to adhere to the policies, guidance and incubation periods that are set by the UK Health Security Agency (previously Public Health England) for all illnesses and viruses. These are inevitable when you have lots of children working together, therefore looking for signs, symptoms and temperatures continue to be vitally important.

The NHS have developed a website page called [is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](http://www.nhs.uk), this page will give you helpful information about childhood illnesses and what are possible signs and symptoms. <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

We are continuing to refuse attendance in school if parents have given their child Calpol, or similar paracetamol based medicine. This is because it can mask temperatures and other symptoms which we need to be able to observe so that we can restrict and control the spread of infections. We kindly ask that you support us with this.



Is your child eligible for 30 hour funded entitlement?

Working parents of 3 and 4 year olds may be eligible for an additional 15 hours per week if they are each working a minimum of 16 hours per week, equivalent to the national living wage up to a maximum of £100,000 per year. In a couple, both parents must be working/in a single parent household, the single parent must be working. For full details of eligibility please see the attached link - <https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/people-and-community/families/childcare/paying/30-hours-funded-childcare-for-working-parents>

If you wish to apply or check your eligibility please use this link - <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>

If you are eligible and wish to take full advantage of these extra 15 hours then please contact the office to check availability within the Nursery.

School Admissions

I know that a lot of you have been asking about when you need to apply for a Primary School place. If your child was born between **1st September 2019** and **31st August 2020**. The closing date for application is 15th January 2024. You can apply online through Surrey County Council website –

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/admissions/primary-junior-and-infant/apply>

I know it is a very hard decision to make where to send your child but choosing a school is like buying a house – ‘it has to feel right for you as a family’. Please make sure that you contact the schools, as many of the local schools are offering virtual tours which are very useful in helping you to make the final decision. Please do not hesitate to come and ask if you are unsure of the admissions process. Please note, we are not able to advise you on which school to choose for your child, or make preferences ourselves, however, we can advise you on the application process.

Nursery Places

Please let family, friends and neighbours know we still have a few places available in our Nursery, plus it is not too early to register for September 2024.

Chertsey Nursery School has vacancies for 2, 3 and 4 year olds. For further information please call 01932 562225 or email us on info@chertsey.surrey.sch.uk



We are starting up our ‘Stay and Play’ sessions here on **Tuesday 10th October 2023 at 12.30pm till 2pm**. These sessions are now going to be weekly. We will be joined by Outreach workers from the Runnymede Family Centre. Please may I ask that you share with your friends and family, and of course, you are welcome to come along with your little ones! Our ‘Stay & Play’ sessions are free for families with children 0-3yrs. Please come along and see the new 2-3s provision, and try out the Autumnal activities that Sally is planning.

Evening Parent Meeting – Thursday 5th October 2024

Emails will have been sent to you inviting you to a meeting on Thursday. Please look out for these, if you do not receive one then please let us know.

We have a Facebook and Instagram page – please follow, we are very close to meeting our target of 100 followers.



#chertseys

Dates for your diary



Thursday 5th October - Parent meetings. (Emails have been sent to each group)

Friday 6th October – Coffee morning at 8.30am
Afternoon tea at 2.30pm

Saturday 7th October – OPEN MORNING

Tuesday 10th October – ‘Stay & Play’ sessions start

Monday 23rd October to Friday 27th October – ½ term, Nursery closed.

Monday 30th October – INSET DAY Nursery Closed

Tuesday 31st October – Nursery reopens as normal

Friday 17th November – Children in Need (more information to follow)

Friday 8th December – Christmas Jumper Day (for Save the Children)

Friday 15th December – last day of term and pyjama day!

Monday 18th December to Monday 1st January 2024 – Nursery closed for Christmas

Tuesday 2nd January – INSET DAY Nursery Closed

Wednesday 3rd January – Term begins, Nursery Open

Monday 12th February to Friday 16th February – ½ term, Nursery closed

Friday 29th March to Friday 12th April – Nursery closed for Easter holidays

Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May – ½ term, Nursery closed

Friday 21st June – INSET DAY Nursery Closed

Wednesday 17th July – Nursery Closed for Summer

** New Dates added*

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

Amended: 28/09/2023