



Our Nursery Newsletter

Spring 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to our Spring Newsletter. This term has been an extremely busy time at the nursery. You can see some of the lovely activities that the children have been involved in on the class face book pages. The children and staff enjoyed celebrating world book day and having the dentist to visit! It is a staggering thought, but in Primary Schools across the UK around eight or nine children in every class will have already developed tooth decay. That's approaching a quarter of a million children in each primary school year and around 3.3 million young people aged 0-14 years. We have an important role to play in educating young people about healthy lifestyles, including their oral care; we hope the dentist visit should hopefully make a difference.



Barbies Coastal Explores

From 17th April we will be re-introducing our coastal explorer sessions for our school leavers. The coastal sessions will make use of local natural space's as part of our outdoor learning experiences supporting the Nursery curriculum, particularly focusing on exploring the world in which we live, our local community, taking care of the environment, developing language, early mathematics and

arts. The sessions have a strong emphasis on raising all children's self-esteem and confidence; children can make connections in their learning and come to understand how we look after ourselves, each other and any place where we play. These sessions will be held once a week for each class (Yellow, Forest and Red class). Children will visit our local coastland in small groups. Individual permission will be sought prior to the sessions and more information will be provided nearer the time.



Barbies Maurice Minors @ Maurice House Royal British Legion

Before Covid we had built a strong link with Maurice House in Broadstairs as part of our intergenerational project. We have developed a lovely relationship with the residents and we are very pleased to announce that we will returning after the Easter break.

Our school leavers will visit Maurice House in small groups. They will engage in different types of activities with the residents such as yoga, Lego, small world play, nature walks, fun and fitness ball activities, music and singing and baking.

The outcomes for the children are very positive with improvements in language development, greater self-esteem and confidence, development of empathy, wellbeing, and supporting children with anxiety.

The focus on intergenerational project is also for the benefit of the residents, such as tackling loneliness and isolation to improving health, care and quality of life. By playing and reading with children, the elderly are less likely to suffer loneliness.

Term 4

Term 4 will finish on the 28th March for our funded children. If you would like to book a space in our holiday club then please contact the reception as limited spaces are available.

Term 5

Will resume on the 17th April and finishes on the 26th May, for funded children. Once again if you wish to book in to our May Half term holiday club please let us know as soon as possible.

SENCo

Connie our setting SENCo will be in the nursery Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. If you would like to discuss your child or have any concerns around their development or you may just want to talk about any difficulties you are experiencing at home with your child then please feel free to contact Connie.

Training

Staff have been busy updating safeguarding training and their food hygiene certificates. Verity and Lily have completed "babies are amazing" training. The training explored how early experiences shape babies' development and the importance of attachment cannot be underestimated. The training provided opportunities to explore and understand the importance of brain development, how to support physical, communication and language development as well as how to create an appropriate environment for babies and under two's. Connie participated in Early Talk Boost training. Early Talk Boost is a target driven, evidence-based programme aimed at 3-4 year old children with delayed speech and language. Connie will be implemented this programme within the nursery.

Other Training completed has been manual handling- safe lifting of children. Inclusive language, unconscious bias and autism awareness training.

Staffing

We would like to say the best of luck to Cali who is leaving us this week to start her maternity leave. We wish her well with the safe arrival of her new little bundle of joy.

We would also like to welcome some new members of staff to the Barbies team, firstly a welcome to Chloe who has joined our Baby Room. Chloe has a BA Hons in childhood studies, Chloe is returning to work after having two young children of her own. Next we have Charlotte who will be joining Forest class, whom is a qualified Forest School Leader. Last but not least we would like to welcome Nathalie who will be joining Green Class after Easter. Nathalie has come from a local primary school as a reception class teacher; Nathalie wants to return to working in a nursery environment where learning through play is at her heart.

Unique stories, parent consultations and 2 year checks

Your child's key person will complete the second developmental assessment of the year or 2 year check for your child, ready to share with you at their 'Unique Story' parent consultation, using our online 'Baby's days' system. Appointments can be obtained from your child's key person nearer to the time. These will be in term 4 & 5. These consultations give parents and carers the opportunity to speak to their child's Key person on how they are progressing. The information that you provide during the 'My Unique Story' is invaluable to your child's overall learning and development.

Primary school admissions

School Places allocated *Monday 17th April*

Important dates for your diary:

<i>Comic Relief (Fancy Dress)</i>	<i>Friday 17th March</i>
<i>Mother's Day</i>	<i>Sunday 19th March</i>
<i>World down Syndrome Day</i>	<i>Tuesday 21st March</i>
<i>Good Friday</i>	<i>7th April Closed</i>
<i>Bank Holiday Monday</i>	<i>10th April Closed</i>
<i>Immi Photos @ Nursery</i>	<i>25th & 26th April</i>
<i>The Coronation</i>	<i>Monday 8th May Closed</i>





Term dates 2022-2023 can be found on our website <http://www.barbiesplayschool.co.uk/>.
2023-2024 to be released soon.

Lunch times

We are always trying to encourage healthy eating at Nursery. If your child stays for lunch we would be grateful for your support by providing your child with a healthy lunch box. Please refrain from giving any products containing nuts as we do have children with nut allergies within the nursery. Please note we can only provide hot lunches provided by parents for our baby and toddler class. Once your child attends Green Class or any other class they can only bring in a lunch that does not need heating. You are welcome to bring in a thermos/insulated hot food lunch box for your child.
Many thanks for your cooperation.

Class Face book pages

We hope you are all accessing your private class Facebook pages. The link can be found on Babysdays, please request to join and agree to the rules of the page. Any issues please contact us. Please keep a look out on Babysdays for any parent information and nursery news.

Payment of nursery fees.

Can we remind parents/carers all Nursery fees are to be paid on a monthly basis (on the 1st of the month) in advance. Failure to keep your account up to date could result in your child's place being suspended.

If your child is eligible for the 30 hours funding please ensure that all 30 hour codes have been applied for and submitted to the nursery before 28th March 2023.

For more information on funding please visit <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>

Pick up/drop off times

Please be mindful of your child's drop off and pick up times. We have to follow staff ratios and we account for the number of children to the number of staff for sessions. If your child is too early or late being collected for a session it can be disruptive to our routine. Thank you for your cooperation.

Car Parking

We would like to remind all parents when bringing their children by car to please be considerate when dropping off and picking up your child up from nursery. Do not park on pavements, park over driveways/dropped kerbs or on the white lines, corners - doing so can make it very dangerous for pedestrians and other road users. Please do not park in Selwyn Court (the big white building next to the nursery) as this is private property, Thank you.

