

Our Nursery Newsletter

Spring 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to our Spring Newsletter, as always we have had some very busy terms at the Nursery with many learning opportunities. Learning is all about taking part in experiences that you will always remember, that stimulate the mind and allow the children access to a broad and balanced curriculum.

Term 2

It seems a long time now since Term 2 (December 2018) but we would like to share with you some of the experiences that your children had at the Nursery. Funded children had the opportunity to participate in our coastal explorer sessions, these sessions had a strong emphasis on raising all children's self-esteem and confidence; children had the opportunity to make connections in their learning and come to understand how we look after ourselves, each other and any place where we play.



Children in all of the classes had the opportunity to engage in a range of winter themed activities that included roleplaying (post office, Santa's workshop), learning and

singing Christmas songs/ carols, experiencing a range of winter music and movement activities, making festive decorations, exploring mark making activities with writing Christmas cards, letters to Santa and wish lists, practicing scissor skills, exploring size through wrapping boxes, experimenting with ice and exploring Christmas themed tuff spots.



We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the parents, Carers and families who came along and supported the children in their Christmas concerts (Green and Yellow Classes) and the Nursery Nativity (Yellow, Blue and Red Classes).

I am sure you all agree that the children were fantastic. The Nursery had a visit from 'Santa' who gave all of the children a small gift. Each class had their own Christmas parties with food and party games. Our funded children then attended The Sarah Thorne Theatre to watch the Pantomime 'Dick Whittington'. A group of children also visited 'Maurice House' to participate in our first annual Christingle. The children had a great start to the festive season.



Term 3 and 4

Over these last two terms the children have been extremely busy exploring the world around them and how people help us. We had a visit from a police officer who talked to the children about safety, what to do if they get lost, what emergency numbers are for and he let them explore his police car.



We also had a visit from a representative from the RNLI who talked to the children about lifeboats and sea safety. The children were able to explore the different clothing and equipment that the RNLI uses.



We then had a visit from a postman who also brought along a post van. He discussed what happens to the post, and how letters and parcels get delivered.

Green class invited some parents in to carry out small activities with the children about 'around the world' which included food tasting, talking about transport and exploring a variety of cultural music and stories.



During this term the children also managed to raise £80 for comic relief by wearing pyjamas to Nursery, engaging in a range of activities for 'math week' and focussed on dental hygiene for 'Healthy Body, Happy Me 2019' for the last week of term.

Green class also ended this term with 'Someone special tea parties' where parents and Carers came into the Nursery to share some sensory activities, singing, planting beans and a story, they then enjoyed some snacks and drinks.



Book start

All 3 and 4 year old funded children should have received their book start treasure pack. Enjoying books can help build language and communication skills and helps children learn how to listen and pay attention. Talk to your local library about sessions and events. The library is a great resource for a range of books that children can enjoy and it is FREE.

Staffing

We try our utmost at Barbies Playschool and Selwyn House Nursery to keep staffing as consistent as possible during the academic year to ensure consistency for your child, however this is not always possible and this term we have seen a few changes to staffing.

Marie joined the Barbies Team in January taking over from Sara Y in the Nature garden. Marie has worked in the Early Years sector for 14 years and has a Higher Education Foundation Degree level 4 in Children and Young people's services.

In February we welcomed Paulette to Barbies, she has a level 4 qualification in childcare and comes to us with lots of experience. From Term 5 she will be supporting Blue and Red class.

Sara C from Red class left us at the end of Term 4 to start at a local school as a TA, we wish her all the best. From Term 5 Claire has stepped up as Red class supervisor, we are sure she will do a fantastic job in leading Red class. Also Joining Red class from Term 5 is Bernadette who has a foundation degree in Early Years Studies and worked in the Early Years for over 24 years.

Chelsea from Blue Class has taken a career break due to ill health and will not be returning this academic year.

Unfortunately Cathy will also be taking time off due to ill health but should return in Term 6 after she has completed her treatment cycle.

Joining Green Class from Term 5 are two very experienced new members of staff; Daiga who has a level 3 Early Years and childcare qualification, whom has worked in childcare for 4 years and Rachel who has a NNEB level 3 in Childcare, who has over 20 years' experience working with children.

Staff photos, names and qualifications can be found on our welcome board in Reception. We thank you for your continued support and understanding with the recent staff changes.

Car seats and Parking

Please can we remind you not to leave a child alone in any vehicle. There is no specific law against this. However, it is an offence to leave your child alone if it places them at risk. *Heat stroke is the biggest danger, other risks include being trapped, setting the car in motion or being taken from the car.* If you see a child left alone inside a car call 999 to get them out as quickly as possible.

Please ensure you have a car seat for your child. UK law states that children must use a child car seat until they're 12 years old or 135cm/4ft 5in tall, whichever comes first. *However, safety experts recommend that you use a child car seat for all children under 150cm/4ft 11in.* For further information visit <https://www.gov.uk/child-car-seats-the-rules> <https://www.childcarseats.org.uk/choosing-using/> to ensure you have the right car seat fitted.

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- 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.

September 2019

Please ensure that you have updated your hours for September 2019 with Becky in Reception as we have almost reached capacity for the next academic year.

Important dates for your diary:

Term 5:	15 th April to 24 th May (closed for Bank holidays on 19 th and 22 nd April and 6 th May).
May Half Term:	27 th to 31 st May
Term 6:	3 rd June to 22 nd July (23 rd and 24 th July additional replacement funding days for previous bank holidays).

Payment of nursery fees.

Can we remind parents/carers all Nursery fees are to be paid on a weekly or monthly basis in advance. Failure to keep your account up to date could result in your child being excluded from the Nursery.

From 1st September 2019 our hourly rate will increase to £6.00 per hour.