

Dear Families,



A big welcome to all the new families who have joined us over the last month, we can't wait to get to know you all. Throughout January the Nursery has been getting out and about including our trips to the Care Home on Fridays. Transition and Kindergarten have found a 'fairy tree' in the woods opposite us. The children have been adding to the decorations already there and talking about the tree with their parents who have been asking for directions to the tree! Toddlers have enjoyed some lovely experiences visiting Itchen Valley and the Library and our Babies have enjoyed some lovely walks around the local community.

Thank you for all the parents who attended our Stay and Play it was so nice to see so many of you, please take a look at our next date. Seasonally February is a month of festivals including Chinese New Year, Valentines Day and Shrove Tuesday. We will be exploring how the children experience them in their own families and see them celebrated in the wider community.

I have started to look at our occupancy for September 2018 so if you would like to increase your sessions please come and let me know.

Annual fee increases will take place from 1st April 2018 and Clare will be working hard to calculate your new fees during February. Fees will increase by 3% (on average 19p per hour) and the Meals & Consumables Charge for Grant funded children will increase by 4p per hour. This year we will be sending the new Fee Information to you by email. If you haven't received your email by 28th February, please let me know. Ideally we would like all our families to pay by direct debit. Please pick up a direct debit form from me next time you are in the Nursery.

Kind Regards

Clare Ashton
Manager

Indoor Outdoor Shoes

We want our children to enjoy outdoor play and experiences whatever the weather. Please bring them in with appropriate clothing for the 'Great British weather'. To support your child making the most of the outdoors, please may I ask you to bring in a pair of wellies/outdoor shoes and a pair of indoor shoes or slippers to change into. Outdoor shoes need to be suitable for walking, climbing and splashing in puddles whilst also keeping little feet warm (oversize or ill-fitting wellies can pose a hazard). Please remember too, to label all items of clothing, including footwear. Many thanks

Diary Dates

- **13th February**
Shrove Tuesday
- **16th February**
Chinese New Year
- **16th February**
Parents Stay and Play.
- **30th March**
Closed for Bank Holiday (Good Friday)
- **2nd April**
Closed for Bank Holiday (Easter Monday)

Babies

This month we have been settling our new Babies into the room building key relationships and getting to know each other. The Babies have explored the sand using their hands, spoons and pots. We have been out in the community visiting the Garden Centre and have also been over to the new estate to watch the diggers.



Toddlers

Toddlers have been getting involved with 'National Story Telling Week!' We have been reading lots of stories and been for a visit to the Library. Toddlers have been labelling pictures with single words and beginning to ask questions about what happens next! We are going to be following the children's interests around the stories we read, planning activities where the children can connect their thoughts and ideas.



Transition

The Transition Room began the month with lots of circle games to learn our new friends names and discuss what happened over the Christmas break. We began our first trip of the year to the woods and explored a 'fairy tree' we had found. The children spoke about the colours they saw the weather and how we must look after the fairies. When we came back to the Nursery, the children began decorating ribbons, bells and drawing pictures for the fairy tree to take back when we returned.



Kindergarten

The Kindergarten children went for a walk to the woods, on route we spoke about the different textures under our feet such as crunchy leaves, squelchy mud and the noises the wind makes when it blows. This led us onto the story of 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'. We read the story during circle time before making our own version on the table for the children to explore. They moved the people through the different textures whilst retelling the story. We have also been making maps and drawing pictures of bears using pencils as well as collaging with different materials such as tissue paper and wool.

