

Dear Families,



Welcome to our February Newsletter.

It has been a fun filled whirlwind start of the year with new children, lots of experiences and some great relationships being formed. The children have really enjoyed their new resources including role play kitchen, new easels and a baby gym in the baby room.

Last month saw Matt join as our new Cook. He has been training at our Otterbourne Nursery and supported by Eva who has been our Cook for the last few months. Eva will be returning to the rooms now so you will still see her. Claire Hickley is supporting at our Chandlers Ford Nursery whilst they are recruiting and hopefully be back with us next month.

We have Bright Horizon's Awards of Excellence nominations open. If you would like to nominate one of the team then please see the poster in the Nursery and the email previously sent. Please let me know if you would like further information

Finally, we want all our children to enjoy outdoor play and experiences whatever the weather. Please bring them in appropriate clothing for the 'Great British Weather'. Please may I ask you to bring in a pair of wellies/outdoor shoes and a pair of indoor shoes/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

Best wishes

Becky McFarlane

Nursery Manager



Swimming Lessons

Kindergarten have been doing very well with their swimming lessons. They have been going with Claire Hine and Karen to Red Lodge and having lessons with Alan on a weekly basis. They have been boosting their confidence in the water by playing lots of games and races. Some can swim unaided with a woggle!

If you are interested in taking part then please speak to Becky or Gemma and we can add you to the list for the next swimming block.



Dates for your Diary

- **Chinese New Year celebrations**
Week of 4th February
- **Red Nose Day**
Friday 15th March
- **Bank Holidays Nursery closed**
Friday 19th April and
Monday 22nd April
- **Kindergarten Graduation**
9th August at 2:30pm

Babies

We have been welcoming lots of new friends to the baby room this month. The children have had lots of one to one time with their Key People and have been spending time getting to know the room. We will be continuing to focus on the Winter season with our winter sensory tray and books. We will also be developing the baby's interest in our baby gym and work on their physical development as they learn to master the stairs. We will be supporting the children to go up and down the stairs independently and use the soft play to climb and roll.



Toddlers

This month the Toddler Room have welcomed some new friends who have settled in very quickly. We have been doing smaller group activities to help the children gain a good relationship with their new Key Person. We have been exploring colours, following the children's interests. Each week we have focused on a different colour and singing the rainbow song to support this. We have been out and about in the outside environment exploring the different colours we can see, for example the equipment in the park and cars. Alongside this we have been encouraging lots of language, using first word cards everyday.



Transition

This month our new families and friends who have joined us or moved up from the Toddler Room have settled in well. The children have enjoyed sharing their experiences of different celebrations, and some of them are continuing to sing festive rhymes, so we have been exploring different celebrations and festivals including Birthdays and Chinese New Year. The older children have been using their cutting skills to make lanterns and the younger children have been making their own junk model Chinese dragons after exploring a real one. The children are continuing to develop their next steps of colours, counting, size language, creative skills and developing their vocabulary through activities based around our provocation.



Kindergarten

Kindergarten have welcomed lots of new faces this month and have settled well into Kindergarten routine. They are becoming very confident with their new environment, adults and friends. The children have been reflecting on their Christmas experiences through their play and during circle time discussions. We will continue to explore Winter and compare with other seasons, as well as a range of number provocations to develop our concepts of recognition, counting and matching quantities. We will also begin our Chinese New Year provocation, where we will explore the story of the Great Race, practise paper folding to make our own lucky fans and try lots of yummy Chinese food. We will even have a go at making our own pancakes!

