

## Dear Families,



January has seen us working together with the local Care Home to continue building relationships within the community. Over the past few months we have seen the children grow in confidence when visiting the Care Home and engaging more with the residents, allowing us to see the true value of these experiences. To enhance these experiences for the children we are setting up a programme of activities based on the interests of the children that we will take with us to the Care Home for the children to share.

Even with the challenges that the Winter weather brings the children and Team have been as keen as ever to enjoy and explore our outdoor space. The wet weather has meant there has been plenty of glorious mud in the mud kitchen and we have seen the Kindergarten children taking on a leadership role, introducing new types of play to the younger children.

Annual fee increases will take place from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018 and our Chrissie 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 28<sup>th</sup> 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

*Hayley James*  
Nursery Manager



## Indoor and 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

- **13<sup>th</sup> February**  
Shrove Tuesday
- **14<sup>th</sup> February**  
Valentines Day
- **11<sup>th</sup> March**  
Mothers Day
- **30<sup>th</sup> March**  
Nursery Closed (Good Friday)
- **2<sup>nd</sup> April**  
Nursery Closed (Easter Monday)
- **3<sup>rd</sup> April**  
Romsey's 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday
- **9<sup>th</sup> April**  
Africa Week (details to follow)

### Babies

The Babies have been busy using their senses to explore their room. They have had the opportunity to explore lots of new and exciting textures including real food in the home corner, flour and water to make a gloop mix as well as different material squares to walk and crawl across. They have also been practicing mark making using brushes in paints and in the sand. The Team have been supporting the Babies in developing confidence when out and about and gaining new physical skills on the play equipment.



### Toddlers



This month in Toddlers we have been exploring our technology toys. The children have been spending their time investigating how things work, move and make noises. This has supported the Toddlers with their communication skills and we have seen the children seeking help from supportive adults when needed. A firm favourite has been the remote control fire engine and the torches. The Team have been encouraging the children's 'green fingers' with trips to the Cedar Nursery to prepare for Spring as well as planting their own Christmas Tree to decorate next year.

### Transition

In Transition the children have been exploring construction, building sites as well as diggers and other heavy machinery. Some of the children were lucky enough to take a trip across the road to the construction site to meet the Site Manager and his Team and talk about what they have been building. The children were allowed to sit in the diggers and press the horn. Back at Nursery we were inspired to create our own small world builders yard with diggers and have been learning new skills using hammers, such as hammering golf tees into cardboard boxes.



### Kindergarten



What a busy month in Kindergarten. The children have been spending time exploring the weather and the changes we see each day, this has led to the children making their own kites to fly on windy days as well as creating some beautiful sun catchers to hang in our Garden. The children have also been putting their colour mixing skills to the test when painting their own rainbows to display in the room. The Team have been supporting the children in learning how to navigate their way around the programmes on the children's computer.