



Dear Parents and carers

22 March 2021

Oh my, we have had cuteness overload this week with our eggs hatching out. The children have been great carers this week watching and looking after the chicks. The process and fascination of watching the eggs hatch and turn into these cute creatures is just amazing and such a learning experience for the children. For the first time ever, we had all of the eggs hatch out therefore we have 6 girls and 5 boys. We are delighted to have them until next Friday, they will then be collected and taken to the farm to live their best life.



### Plastic Free schools



Following the success of our Eco-School award we have started to think about our next Eco-friendly venture. We were actually contacted by Telford and Wrekin Council to ask us to get on board with their latest project. The council is taking part in a larger borough-wide accreditation scheme led by Surfers Against Sewage to reduce plastic waste in Telford. We as nursery have now joined the group and will be working towards plastic free status by completing a series of tasks and swaps over the next few months. More information about the accreditation can be found at: <https://plasticfreeschools.org.uk/> but we will keep you posted on our progress.

## Mental Health First Aid

I have been completing a wonderful course over the last few weeks which focusses on Mental First Aid and raising awareness of the importance of mental health and wellbeing. I cannot recommend the course enough as it has helped me recognise how important looking after one's mental health is- its equally if not more important than maintaining your physical health. I would whole heartedly recommend this to anyone that wants to look after themselves or others. More information is available at <https://mhfaengland.org/> but please email me if you want any other information. This is great for workplaces and might be worth suggesting to your employer if it is something you are interested in.



**MHFA England**

## COVID-19 Update

As per the government guidelines we are due to start our lateral flow testing with staff this week. We are pleased that staff have access to this service and feel it will definitely minimise the risk of a COVID outbreak in the setting but we're also a little apprehensive as we know that a positive result could shut down a bubble until a full PCR test has been done and come back negative. We hope the process will run smoothly, we will keep you updated and of course notify you if we feel your child needs to isolate.



I have set up a questionnaire on Microsoft teams about nursery's opening hours for after Easter. The questionnaire is to ascertain what hours parent's need after 4pm and on what days. We appreciate that some parents have changed their hours and may not want to revert back to their old sessions pre-COVID. It would help us immensely if each parent could complete the survey to give us a good idea of how many places we need to provide childcare for after 4pm. The questionnaire won't take long to complete and will really help us in our forward planning

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=2s8TOK9SpUy44yMVeXcKunZMbH3kBGllmO5Y9UIQTIZUMFZZWE1MSIiWNUIJTfBOQ0hENziKN0ZITS4u>

## Nursery Fee's

Every March the trustee's review the nursery fee's ready for an increase in April, in line with inevitable minimum wage increases. This year has not been any different in terms of the review however, the trustees have decided to stave off on a fee increase until September 2021 this year. Our nursery is a charity and the trustees have a duty of care to ensure sustainability but we also have a duty of care to our families and it was felt that the delay in the fee increase would help so many of our families who have found themselves in very different financial circumstances to this time last year. We're sure this **decision will be welcomed by everyone.**

**Here is the link to our current fee's:**

[http://telfordnurseries.org/files/Halesfield\\_Day\\_Nursery\\_Fees\\_2020.pdf](http://telfordnurseries.org/files/Halesfield_Day_Nursery_Fees_2020.pdf)

## Easter

We have plans for over Easter to help the children learn about this important topic. On Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April we will be holding an Easter bonnet competition. Children are welcome to create their own hats, bonnets, and crowns to bring into nursery. All entries will be judged and win a prize. It really doesn't have to be anything special- just something the children have made and are proud of! We will also be holding an easter raffle, tickets will be on sale next week at a cost of £1. Money raised will be used to pay for our Music Minors lessons that are set to return after the Easter holidays. We will also be holding an easter colouring competition for the nursery. This week we will be giving out colouring sheets to the children for them to design their own Easter Egg. Entry is free and prizes will be given out to the best in each class. Just enjoy getting creative with your little ones and have fun. It really is about the process and the product.



## Community Fridge and Freezer



Our community food has been going down a treat this week. Lots of variety going on including cheese, yoghurts and a range of vegan foods. If you haven't looked in already then please do, the produce is always changing. It's there for anyone and everyone to use. Donations are welcome but not necessary. We cannot thank the Telford Food Share Project enough for helping us keep this initiative going.

## Census



census 2021

Just a reminder, if you haven't done it already then please don't forget to complete your census questionnaire. They are due in Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> March and the council have said they will be following up any that haven't been submitted and issuing fines!. If anyone needs any help and support to complete theirs, then please let us

know. We can help with this or signpost you to someone who can.

## Diary Dates and information

- Link to this week's menu:  
[http://telfordnurseries.org/files/Spring\\_Term\\_2021\\_Week\\_11\\_Menu.pdf](http://telfordnurseries.org/files/Spring_Term_2021_Week_11_Menu.pdf)
- Link to our: Caring for children outside the setting policy  
<http://telfordnurseries.org/files/policies/1.9%20Caring%20for%20children%20outside%20the%20setting.pdf>
- Easter dates: Term time children break up Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April back Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April. Nursery open as usual Good Friday but closed Bank Holiday Monday 5<sup>th</sup> April.

Yours sincerely

**Helen Childs**  
Nursery Manager