



Dear Parents and carers

24 January 2022



Well, we could say the last two weeks in nursery have not exactly gone to plan- to date we have had 9 of our team test positive for COVID-19 and isolating this month. This obviously has put a huge strain on our staffing and restricted how we could operate. Thank you so much to all the wonderful parents who sent lovely messages, offered to keep children at home and swapped sessions to help us. It really did help us get through the toughest of days and kept

things running as smoothly as possible under the circumstances. Also thank you to all the staff that have helped and pulled us through, covering longer days, working days off, working from home whilst isolating to ensure that the quality of our nursery was still the best it can be. Most staff are now recovered and able to be back in nursery this week- they are all glad to get out of isolation and back to work (apparently!).

So, we plan for nursery to be back to normal this week. Back open 7.30am-6pm with full capacity in classes. Hopefully we now have enough immunity in our nursery team to carry us through to the end of March when restrictions are fully lifted, and no isolation periods will be required. This will help us staff the nursery, much more efficiently and easily. Please stay vigilant and keep children at home if they are poorly or display any COVID symptoms- this will help us keep everyone healthy and well.

Forest School

We were due to start our Forest School sessions back up this Monday but due to staff absences we haven't been able to organise the kit bag, carry out the new terms' risk assessments or check all the parental consents have been returned. This is something we will get done this week ready for next Monday (31st January). The children are going to have a great time in the woods exploring everything they can and learning first-hand about nature.



Easter concert

We have planned an Easter concert for our Preschool children on Friday 8th April, which will be held at St Andrews Church in Shifnal. We have done this in the past and it has been wonderful learning experience for the children and feedback from parents has been great.



On the day, the children will be taken to church via minibus around 1.30pm. They will then get to spend the whole afternoon in church taking part in fun activities such as Easter egg hunts, and Easter card making. Children will have their afternoon snack there and be able to explore all areas of the church with their friends and staff. At 3.30pm, we will put on an Easter performance for parents and also light refreshments. Children can

then be taken home by parents after the show. Clearly arrangements will be made to transport children back to nursery afterwards if parents are unable to attend. We will provide more information and consent forms nearer the time but for now- please put the date in your diary.

Warm Clothing

Even with the cold weather outside children are still accessing outdoor play daily at nursery. We are passionate about children being outdoors as much as they can and given the choice the majority of children will choose to be outside over inside. To help facilitate this we really need all parents to bring in one or two extra changes of clothes each day for their child please.



Often, we are searching round nursery for spare socks, trousers and t-shirts for children who haven't got a spare set of clothes in their bag when they become wet or dirty. Not only does this take time away from the children whilst searching for clothes, but also it can upset children as they are being changed into clothes that are not familiar to them. We really want the children to have the freedom to be outside, getting wet and dirty if they wish. We have some wonderful all in one suits for children which we will be using to help protect them from the ailments but spare clothes is a must please. You also get brownie points if you label them too.

Clothes collection



Also, just a reminder, if you're having a clothes clear out then please send them to us. We have our clothes collection bin at the end of our driveway. It is very nearly full so will arrange a collection soon. Information about what can be put in the bin can be found at: <https://www.recycle4school.org.uk/> but generally clothes, shoes, hats and blankets are a yes. On collection the textiles are weighed and nursery receives money in return which we then use towards buying new resources and putting on activities for the children. We do have carrier bags in the foyer for use but donated items can be in any bag at

all.

Diary Dates and information

- Link to this week's menu: http://telfordnursery.org/files/Spring_Term_2022_Week_4_Menu.pdf
- Half term 21 February- 25 February 2022
- Easter Holidays 10 April – 22 April 2022
- Preschool Easter Concert 3.30pm Friday 8 April@ St Andrews Church- more details to follow.

Yours sincerely



Helen Childs
Nursery Manager