



Dear Parents and carers

29 June 2020

It has been fantastic being back- it's lovely to see so many little faces returning to nursery. The children have been great adapting to being back- they are so resilient and have not been fazed by the changes that are in place, things such as parents not entering the setting; they are used to the new norm now and we are so proud of them all.

We had lots of fun last week with many opportunities for outdoor activities and water play to cool us down. Photo day was a huge success with 35 children having their photo taken. Thank you to everyone that came and took part. It won't be long before they are back, as Mr Finlay always gives us a fast turn-around. We will let everyone know via Facebook when the photos have arrived.

Clothes collection

This Thursday we are set for our second clothes collection of the year. We think now is a great time to have a clear out of any unused clothes, shoes, handbags, and bedding. Please bring your unwanted textiles up to nursery before Thursday 2nd July. Donations can be given to us in any bags- please tie them tight to keep them secure. As well as clearing out your cupboards you will also be helping the nursery to raise some money- so what's to lose? If you are struggling to make it to nursery, we can collect donations from you- socially distanced of course just let us know.

Playground update

Thankfully, we received planning permission last week for our new outdoor classroom/shelter for the playground. We are still waiting for building control to confirm that we can proceed with the particular structure that we want but at least we can get the soft pour laid now and start moving forward again. This will all be happening at the weekend. So next week all being well we should have our large playground back for the children to explore. Once this is in place then we can really start to plan the areas and outdoor learning opportunities for the children.

At the weekend we are also having a new roof put on the toddler classroom, to replace the fire damaged roofing. This will mean we can then replace the canopy that was also fire damaged. It's all getting very exciting; we know the nursery is going to look fantastic at the end of the refurbishment. Thank you again to everyone that has helped us get back on our feet- we have been overwhelmed by the support and kind messages.

Emailing invoices

We are very pleased to announce that we have been able to set up the facility to email invoices to parents. This is great as it will firstly, cut down on waste and secondly, it should help parents keep better track of their childcare balance without having to wait for the paper copy from nursery. The email address it will be sent from is halesfieldinvoices@telfordnurseries.org along with a balance of your account. Hopefully, we won't have too many teething problems and the process should run smoothly but should you not receive your invoice via email in the next few weeks then please do let us know. If you don't want to receive your invoice via email, then please contact us so we know. As always, we ask that payments are made at the end of each week or monthly in advance please- this is more important than ever as we work through covid-19 and the financial pressures it is putting on the nursery.

Preschool is very busy

Thank you to everyone that has been very accommodating with any changes in hours upon their return. Although we have managed to offer everyone some funded sessions, we know there are some of you that are still not using all of your funded hours. We would love to have everyone back doing their previous sessions but due to the government restrictions on numbers, this simply is not possible at the moment. We hope this will change soon and we can offer more sessions accordingly.

At present, we are also finding it challenging to cover our bubbles, as the staffing needs to stay consistent to prevent any cross contamination therefore staff cannot move around the nursery covering different groups nor have any time off. As we have several staff shielding this is proving even more difficult, so we are now having to recruit a couple of staff members temporarily to help us through these busy times. Unless government guidelines change allowing us to increase the size of our bubbles it is inevitable that we will have to keep the current opening hours of 8am – 4pm running until September. Obviously this is not what we want but given the current funding situation and reduced amount of parent fee's coming into nursery we know extending the hours will prove very costly to nursery and may well effect the sustainability of the setting. Please bear with us, we are doing all that we can and aim to be fully operational as soon as we can be.

Thank you again for bearing with us. Any queries either ring and speak with Jackie in the office or email halesfield@telfordnurseries.org

Yours sincerely



Helen Childs
Nursery Manager