SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the Orchard Day Nursery Family. Welcome to the new school year! We are delighted to be able to welcome all our new families and are excited about the term ahead. This newsletter will keep you up to date with all of the latest events that are happening in the nursery and will include information about staff, reminders, curriculum etc I know we are only a few days in but the children have been remarkable at how they have come in - settled and happy - what more could anyone ask for! Remember they take the lead from you so if you are calm and positive, they will be too!

For your peace of mind here are some of the key measures we are taking to ensure safety for everyone:

 • we are operating in an open plan layout which allows children free flow

• staff are not timetabled to work in more than one bubble

• staggered start and finish times

• hand gel throughout the site

• children and staff wash hands on arrival and throughout the day

 • our rooms are well ventilated

• we are spending as much time outside as possible

Please remember that the settling in period can take upto 6 weeks. After this period, you will be able to access your child’s online journal via Famly. All details have been updated on Famly with the email address provided.

The first topic of our school year is ALL ABOUT ME! Attending for the first time a nursery or returning from a holiday in a place with new friends it might be overwhelming for a child; therefore we have chosen our thematic to be All About Me because this theme helps children realise that every person is unique and special; every child’s thoughts and ideas are important and no one person is more or less important than another! The goal behind an All about Me theme is to help children learn about each other and their families!

IMPROTANT REMINDERS

We feel confident that we are adhering to all the government guidance and managing risk as effectively as we possibly can

* Sickness Policy Please do not ADMINSTER ANY MEDICINE before the start of their sessions. If your child is sick or has diarrhoea, then you must keep them off school for 48 hours to avoid spreading the bug.
* Change of clothes Please make sure your child always has weather appropriate clothing in their bags. As the weather is changing please apply Sun cream before coming. These bags should be taken home at the end of the week and returned at the start of the week. PLEASE can you make sure that your child’s belongings are clearly named for example, sweatshirts and coats. This will greatly help your child and staff!
* The advice is that only one adult brings the child to school, to help with social distancing at the door and on the paths
* PLEASE remember that all adults, always, should socially distance themselves from other adults. You may wish to consider wearing a face mask whilst dropping off and collecting.
* PLEASE can you make sure that your child’s belongings are clearly named for example, sweatshirts and coats. This will greatly help your child and staff!
* PLEASE do not send your child into school with lace-up shoes, as they cannot manage these themselves and we want to avoid accidents and help them be as independent as possible
* PLEASE always telephone if your child will be off school because they are unwell. We have to complete a daily online register for the DfE and we need to know the reasons for children’s

As you are aware the symptoms suggestive of COVID-19 are:

* A new, continuous cough
* A high temperature (38.9 degrees or more)
* A loss of, or change in, smell or taste (anosmia) In a letter from ‘Public Health England’ and ‘NHS Test and Trace’, Headteachers have been urged to stop pupils, parents and staff from getting unnecessary coronavirus tests if you do not display the symptoms above, to help with the surge in demand for tests. We appreciate that this is a very difficult decision to make and that you are likely to follow the advice of your doctor.
* Birthday celebrations-We do understand that your child’s birthday is a very important celebration for them. We always give your child a card and the class sing ‘Happy Birthday’ to them and they blow out the candles on cakes we will bake, currently. A reminder that we ask you not to send in cakes, biscuits or sweets to have in class or to send home. Thank you for your cooperation with this.
* Diary dates: Normally I would be taking great pleasure in sending you our ‘ Programme of Events’ with lots of opportunities for you to come into the setting and share in your child’s learning and workshops for you to attend. Sadly, these events are on hold, but as soon as we are back on track, we will be inviting you into the setting. In the meantime, please keep up to date by regularly looking at the news feed update on Family and responding to your child’s learning journal!

There is a ‘Department for Education coronavirus (COVID-19) helpline’ which is available to answer questions about coronavirus (COVID-19) relating to education and children’s social care. Staff, parents and young people can contact this helpline by calling: Phone: 0800 046 8687 Opening hours: Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm You may be interested to read this report, published on 17th September:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-parents-and-carers-of-children-attending-out-of-school-settings-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/guidance-for-parents-and-carers-of-children-attending-out-of-school-settings-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak>

We value and appreciate our strong relationships with parents & thank you for your support in helping us work together to help your child achieve their potential.

If you have any queries, questions or concerns, please email or call Erum/ Laura on 02071251485.

Erum & Nursery Team

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| **Montessori Philosophy:****Our goal is to welcome all children and where necessary, seek to provide additional support and resources to enable the inclusion of all children. We believe that all children have the right to high quality care and education. We aim to achieve this by:****- Identifying individual children's needs and requirements****- Work in partnership with parents / carers****- Identifying and providing additional resources and support. (We will, wherever possible, help parents / carers find various routes to achieve this.** **Montessori at home****Store books and toys on low level shelves. Encourage your child to put away their toys after use. Baskets are great for toy storage.**We have added this page to help to prepare your child for Montessori school.**Independence: Please help your child farewell you at the main entrance door, please have your child dressed in full school uniform on arrival. The children are very proud entering the classroom independently.****Montessori Flick (putting on our coat)****How to put your coat on the Montessori Way****1. Place the coat down on the floor****2. Stand by the hood or label****3. Put your hands in the sleeves and flick up and over your head****First demonstrate to your child, you might need to do this a few times until they grasp the concept.****Respect****We nurture the spirit of respect in a peaceful classroom, showing a polite caring manner, encouraging a positive attitude, using a gentle voice and gracious movements. By preparation of the environment, the teachers offer respect for the inner world of the child.****By giving children real work in the practical life area, the children have shown confidence in dealing with the real world and the love of learning.****Many of the Montessori materials encourage the child to problem solve themselves, thus encouraging the child’s self-esteem and confidence as well developing eye-hand co-ordination. We also encourage the children once settled into the setting to farewell their parent or carer at the entrance door, it’s a wonderful day when they are confident to enter the classroom independently.****Getting down to a child’s level and encouraging eye contact shows the child you are interested in what they have to say. This also helps when you want the child to listen to you****At home offer a variety of art materials and natural resources, let the child freely create and explore. Our job as adults is to offer ideas and experiences to inspire the child’s hungry mind.**  |

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**Should you have any queries, questions or wish to discuss anything regarding nursery life please do take time to speak to either Miss Erum (manager) or Miss Anjana who are most informed and equipped to respond to you effectively.**