

**December Newsletter 2020**

Dear Parents,

We hope you are so excited as we are for this new month! December has always been a month which brings bright and hope. We can’t end up this year without saying thank you to all of you for your cooperation and support through hard times 😊 Hopefully in 2021 things will be better!

Our Theme for December:

* **Winter**. Dressing accordingly, noticing the changes in the environment, exploring with different textures… all of that will be part of this beautiful month!
* **Events**: We will focus on the typical events and celebrations of December.
  + Christmas: We want to create a lovely environment full of colours and good vibes. We have planned lot of activities about this theme which we are sure will make our children very happy! We will also celebrate the famous “Christmas Jumper day”. We want to encourage you to bring them with a Christmas jumper on that day and we will invite you to sign in our “Virtual Christmas concert”\*
  + Hanukkah: Chanukah is the Jewish eight-day, wintertime “festival of lights,” celebrated with a nightly menorah lighting, special prayers and fried foods. We will ensure our children learn and respect other traditions and cultures.
* **Oral hygiene**: We want to introduce the importance of brushing our teeth and eating healthy food. Even when we bake, we can make it healthier! We would like all children from Preschool and 2-3’s room to bring their toothbrush and toothpaste as we will start to brush their teeth after lunch time. We believe it will be a great motivation for your children to keep doing it at home! (Please make sure they are named and kept in a case)

VIRTUAL PARENTS EVENING:

The Autumn Term report will be on Famly by 11th December. We will be able to explain it to you with details during our Virtual Parents evening\*. You will find a timetable on our door from next week; please make sure you write down your child’s name and book a slot. If you are not able to do it during any of the days provide, please email us with the days you will be available.

For those children who are still settling in, we will add their long observation after 6 weeks. As we are still collecting information about their development, we won’t be able to add a report until they have settled. However, we will be happy to have a meeting to talk about their settling in period and answer any questions you might have.

\***VIRTUAL PARENTS EVENING (MEETINGS)** : It will be from the 14th December to the 18th December (Slots of 15 minutes) We will email you the Zoom details once you have booked your time and day.

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| *DIARY DATES:*   * Parents evening: From 14th-18th December 2020 * Virtual Christmas concert: 17th December 2020 – 10:30am (Don’t forget to dress your child with a Christmas jumper!) * LAST DAY: 22nd December 2021 * REOPEN: 4th January 2021 |

Here are a few important reminder

* 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 absences. If your child is sick or has diarrhoea, then you must keep them off school for 48 hours to avoid spreading the bug.
* 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.
* Keep in touch-Please download any files for child’s learning journey, as we delete the account after they have left. This has been such a wonderful way of keeping in touch and knowing what you are all up to
* 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: Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 we are not able to allow parents to come to the setting. However, as we don’t want to miss special events such as Christmas party, we have decided to book a “Virtual concert” on the 17th December of 2020. We will email you the Zoom details.
* Fees Query- Please email the manager. I will investigate it and will be able to update you immediately.

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| 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> |

Staff NEWS:

* Due to personal change in circumstances, Elena will leave on the 30th of November. We wish her to best in her future!
* We want to welcome two new members of the staff from 30th of November:
  + We have **Lucy Dowling**, Level 7 qualified: Now she is our Deputy Manager and Preschool-2’3s room leader. She has many years’ experience in childcare.
  + We also have **Hafsa ID**, Level 6 qualified: Hafsa will be part of our babies room Team. She has also many years of experience in childcare and she is very excited to work with all of us.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact management regarding any query! We are always happy to help!

On behalf of the staff we wish you merry Christmas and a happy new year!! We’ll see you back on the 4th!😊

Laura and the Nursery Team