



January/February 2021 Newsletter

Hello everyone!

I just want to start by reflecting on an intense few weeks! Thank you all for your support and understanding during January's closure, due to some positive confirmed covid-19 cases within the setting. We are happy to be back and pleased that everybody who has been affected is making a good recovery. Thank you for all the well wishes.

You may notice that staff will now be wearing face coverings when answering the main door at drop off/collection times. This is to minimise transmission, especially between adults, and to strengthen social distancing measures in place at these times. You will no longer need to sign your child in/out, staff will do this on your behalf, again to minimise transmission. Please only one parent/carer to approach the main door at drop off/collection times. Thank you again for your patience and understanding.

Now some good news...

We are enhancing our nursery by creating an additional area for sensory play. Some benefits of sensory play include helping to build nerve connections in the brain, it encourages the development of motor skills, supports language development and encourages 'scientific thinking' and problem solving. We are planning for this to be completed by the end of March and look forward to sharing this with you.

In addition to this we are shortly planning to introduce an online software. This will enable you to view your child's learning and development online as well as to enhance communication between nursery and home. We feel that this will be a fantastic tool for everyone, especially during the pandemic. Further details coming soon.

All About Me:

Please can we ask that each child creates an A4 sized page to go into our All About Me folder which will be located in the book corner. These should include a photo of your child and some photos of their family members, pets or anybody who is important to them. Please label each photo on the page telling us who it is, this will help us to talk about these special people with your child. This can be double sided if you so wish.

Dave who facilitates our lightbulb sport's classes is now back with us on a Friday morning. If your child attends this session please ensure they are wearing or bring with them a pair of sturdy trainers to allow them to be able to take part with more comfort and flexibility to complete the drills. This really helps build the children's physical skills as well as their confidence and sense of achievement. The children absolutely love Dave's sessions.

Diary Dates:

Friday 2nd April 2021 – Good Friday – Nursery closed

Monday 5th April 2021 -Easter Monday – Nursery closed

Polite Reminder...

- * Fees are due by the 5th of each month in full. After this date a late payment charge will be applied.
- * No sweets or fizzy drinks to be brought to nursery.
- * Please **name** your child's lunchbox, drinks bottle, coat, hat, etc.
- * Please check lost property for any missing belongings. These items will be stored by us for 28 days.
- * Please bring a drink bottle each session and place it in the red carriers.
- * Advise us of any changes to your contact details.
- * If your child will be off sick then please let us know as soon as possible as we have to record all absences.

Here is a reminder of some of the measures we have put in place to make sure our preschool nursery is as safe as possible for everyone:

- If your child attends more than one preschool, nursery or childminder you will be asked to choose only one setting to enable their bubble to be kept as small as possible to prevent the spread of the virus between settings.
- Drop off and collection will be different to usual. Only **one** parent who is symptom free will be allowed onto the nursery grounds but will not be allowed into the preschool building. Please respect staff and distance yourself 2 meters away from them at all times.
- We may group children and give them a staggered start and finish time. No buggies, scooters or bikes etc. will be allowed to be stored at preschool at this time. No parking of cars on the nursery premises as we will be needing this space to maximise outside play and need to set this up in advance of children's arrival. On arrival at preschool please take note of the markers set up, both on the pavement outside nursery and in the narrow entrance to the main doors to support social distancing. Please be patient as drop off and collection times may take longer than usual and respect others space at all times.
- Adults must stay 2 meters away from other adults and keep their child with them until they have been dropped off.
- We will take temperatures of children and staff on arrival. Children should be symptom free of any illness. We may ask the children if they have had medicine in the morning or afternoon when they arrive as parents have often given Calpol to bring down a temperature to enable them to get to work. Please do not do this.
- We will be outside more often regardless of the weather so please dress your child appropriately. Coats will be needed every day. Hats, gloves, wellies, etc are advisable.
- You must ensure all of your emergency contacts are up to date and are able to collect your child in the event of an emergency or they become ill. You must be able to collect your child within 30 minutes of receiving a telephone call.
- Children must not bring in any comforters, soft toys, blankets, toys or anything other than their coat, spare change of clothes/nappy changing bags and their packed lunch with a clearly named water bottle. We are now limiting how much comes into preschool.
- Catch it, Bin it, Kill it, wash your hands will remain our policy – please continue this at home. Also try the coughing into your elbow.
- We have removed a lot of resources and equipment such as blankets, soft toys, dough, water, sand etc. and have cleaned everything in sight. We will continue to clean up during the day as usual and at the end of the day do a thorough clean.

Funding:

If your child will turn 3 years old between January and up to the end of March 2021 then you should be able to claim the 15 hours Early Education Funding. Please ask for a form to complete and return it to me as soon as possible so I can make this effective from April 2021.

For information on accessing help to cover childcare costs you can visit: www.childcarechoices.gov.uk and find out what you could be eligible for. This includes: tax-free childcare, 15 hour funding for 2 year olds and 3-4 year olds, 30 hour funding for 3-4 year olds, tax credits for childcare, universal credit for childcare and support while you study.

Some children will be eligible for extra funding through the Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) to support their child's development, learning and care. It is additional funding provided from the Government to support three and four year olds early education. To find out if your child could benefit from this you can visit: <https://www.bournemouth.gov.uk/childreducation/childcare/paying-for-childcare/EarlyYearsPupilPremium.aspx>

If you need any support with this then please come and talk with me and I'll be happy to help.

Thank you for your continued support. Any queries/concerns then please do not hesitate to talk to us. Equally, any ideas or suggestions you may have to improve or enhance the setting then let us know. We value your feedback.

Charlotte and the Charlotte's Web Pre-School Nursery team.