



Autumn 2015 Newsletter

Welcome back and hello to our new children and parents

We hope you have all had a fantastic summer break, we have had a busy summer with our holiday club this summer, we did lots of arts and crafts, cooking, gardening and the favourite; junk modelling!

At a recent staff meeting we decided to name our rooms:

Caterpillar - Babies, **Butterfly** - Toddlers (barn), **Dragonfly** - Pre-schoolers. This will provide endless fun when looking at nature activities and we preferred this to calling it a baby room, toddler room etc.. which felt a bit soulless.

Staffing

Luke is leaving us to go travelling to Australia, he will be missed and it has been great having a male presence in the nursery and I know many of the children will miss him. Yolanda and Cheryl left us in July; Yolanda to train as a teacher and Cheryl's husband was posted elsewhere, they have both been with the nursery for over 5 years so we were very sad to lose them, but wish them both lots of luck, and Yolanda is going to help us with Montessori training in the future.

Rebecca has joined us as Pre-School Room Leader, she has many years experience as a childminder and I know she will bring a new set of skills to the Pre-school.

The **Butterfly** room in the barn (toddlers) will be staffed with Sheila (Nursery Deputy & Room Leader), Courtney and Jackie. The **Caterpillar** room (babies) will be staffed with Debbie (Nursery Manager), Jackie, Abbie and Cheryl.

Maureen will provide lunchtime cover for the **Butterfly** and **Caterpillar** rooms. The **Dragonfly** room will be staffed with Rebecca (Room Leader), Sian and Caroline. Andrea is our finance administrator if you need to query your bill or want information on payment options or childcare vouchers.

Meals and snacks

This is very exciting for us to be able to provide meals at nursery, hot lunches term time and a cold lunch in the school holidays, we have sent letters out with meal and snack options. Copies of the lunch and snack menu are on the notice board. From January our fee increase will include all meals and snacks. Funded children have the option to bring in their own snacks and a cold packed lunch or we can provide this and will invoice monthly accordingly.

Potty Training

This can be a traumatic experience for some parents, and we are here to help you through this. Each child develops at their own rate so it is important to look at some of the following signs:

- Staying dry for a few hours each day
- Taking an interest in the toilet
- Regular bowel movements eg, after a meal
- Letting you know when their nappy is wet or dirty

It is a good idea to start potty training when you have some time to focus on it as toddlers pick up the idea very quickly but need consistency. Major upheavals eg, moving house can put them back. Please talk to the staff if you feel your child is ready and we will support you and your child in nursery.

Learning Journeys

We are going to be doing the children's learning journeys, all about me forms, parents input and daily logs online with our new eyLog web based tool. This means you will be able to log onto your child's area (with your own log in and password using a tablet or computer) and read about what your child has been doing, how well they are developing against the Early years Framework and we can share newsletters and messages. If you do not have internet access please let us know so we can provide a paper based alternative. We are very excited about this and will invite you to see how it works at the end of September when we are all set up. If you want further information please speak to Debbie or Hannah.

Reminders

Please can you ensure your child has a labelled spare set of clothes for those little accidents and the days they get over zealous in the water or outside playing! We also need slippers (Velcro plimsolls for pre-school) for indoor wear, wellies, hat, gloves and coats please for outdoor play - all labelled please.

October ½ Term Holiday Club Spaces

We currently have spaces in our ½ term **Holiday Club** running from **26 - 30 October** for 5-8 year olds and 3 - 5 year olds if you need us. We will be having lots of fun with the children, including baking, gardening and various crafts. Children are welcome for ½ days or full days, so why not book your little one in for some fun activities. Prices start from £16 so book now to avoid disappointment. **Call Debbie on 01748 823667.**

Website and Facebook

Our website can be found at www.rooftopsnurseryschool.co.uk There are downloadable forms & back copies of our newsletters. We now publish our newsletters on the website in order to save paper. If you wish to still receive a hard copy, please let us know and we will print one off. We have an open facebook page for updates, open days etc, this should not be used to upload your children's photos as it is a public page, we will only load up general information about what have done, events, etc. Please could we encourage you to like the page and add a short review of the nursery. 1 sentence is enough to help boost our page and to help other parents in the area hear about us. If you have any concerns about the use of this page, please speak to us directly.



Barn Development News

We will be having an official open day and opening by Rishi Sunak, Conservative MP for the new barn on Saturday 19th September from 10am - 2pm. Everyone is welcome to come and see what we have been doing over the holidays to get this finished, as per usual with all builds it did run over schedule but the end result is fantastic and it is a very exciting space to have available. The downstairs will be used for the toddlers (2 - 3.5 years) and we will serve meals from the upstairs room and also use it for other activities such as cooking and art. We are hoping to get someone to run French and music sessions that will be available for parents to stay and play with their children on days when they are not at nursery. If you are interested please let Hannah know.

Refurbished Baby Room

Now the toddlers have moved to their new butterfly room we have had a change around in the baby room to make one end of the room a sleeping/cosy area and the other end will be for messy play, a home corner and a role play area. We are now able to offer more baby and toddler places so please come and have a look at these areas.

Extended Garden Space

The work on the barn gave us an opportunity to extend the garden space we have into the car park, this is great as the toddlers and pre school children will have open access all day to the outside area. We have created a grass bank as the children love to run up and down it. A paved area to ride bikes on, play games and run around and a raised bed so that we can do lots of gardening.

One off sessions

Did you know we are available for one off sessions? If you are faced with an emergency or just need care for an extra session or day, please feel free to contact us and check late availability.

Parents Quick Reminders

- Please ensure we have a labelled spare set of clothes, a pair of wellies, hats, gloves and a coat especially as we will be spending a lot of time outside in all weathers playing and gardening!
- Any donations for our junk modelling over the holidays would be greatly received (No toilet rolls or empty medicine boxes please)
- **Half term is from Monday 27th October to Friday 31st October**
- **Nursery closes on Friday 18 December 2015 and we come back on Monday 4 January 2016**

If you have any comments or suggestions for our newsletter content, please let us know either in person or by e-mailing info@rooftopsnurseryschool.co.uk

