

Nursery



Newsletter

May 2019 Summer Term



Welcome to the Summer Term at Stockbridge Nursery!

The year seems to be whizzing by and we are already enjoying a busy and exciting final term of the year.



It has been lovely to welcome so many new families into our nursery community over the past few weeks. The children in our morning and afternoon classes have been so kind and welcoming to the new boys and girls. We are using stories, songs and roleplay to stimulate discussion about our unique personalities and qualities as we get to know each other. Thank you for making our new families feel welcome in our nursery.



We started the term with a visit from the theatre company, Visible Fictions, who performed a version of the lovely children's book, 'Ladder to the Stars' to the nursery children. The show, which used puppets and music, sparked off lots of discussion amongst the children about such things as stars, planets, space travel, the weather, trees, birthdays and wishes. Look out for how some of these ideas are developing in our play and learning experiences in our group books and on the online leaning journals.



Our nursery garden has really come to life over the holiday and is looking so vibrant and colourful. The children have been enjoying watering the plants and helping with the weeding. They have also been looking after the potato plants they planted before the Easter holidays and planting sunflower seeds. This has led to lots of discussion about the parts of a plant and what they need to grow. We aim to develop this interest as we continue to plant and harvest in our garden throughout the term.



Big thanks to Tracy, mum of Ella in our morning class, for sharing her gardening skills and helping our Nursery Garden to flourish. Her hard work is very much appreciated. Look out for information on how you can get involved with helping in the garden on our parent noticeboard.



The children have also been exploring insect life in our garden which we shall be extending further through a mini beast topic. This will include bug hunts, surveys, art activities stories and drama. We will also be welcoming some wriggly and 'very hungry' guests into the nursery to watch them grow and change as we think about life cycles. We will, of course, explore Eric Carle's classic story and artwork as part of

this learning. Alongside this, our Maths focus will be on measurement and we will be doing lots of activities involving measuring and weighing.



We recently put a sheet up asking you to suggest any learning that you want us to explore with your children. In response to this, we will incorporate practice of zips and shoelaces, road safety and telling the time into our learning experiences this term. Thank you for your suggestions.



Throughout the term, the children will be given many opportunities to develop their literacy and numeracy skills through stories, games, creative play, problem solving, drama, music, mark making and art and craft activities.



In June, we will begin to think about seasonal change once more as we move from spring to summer. During this final month of our nursery year, our learning will have a school theme as we prepare our pre-school children for the important transition to P1. Those of you who are parents of pre-schoolers should have received a list of transition events from your child's primary school. Reminders of the Stockbridge transition events are displayed on the Parent Noticeboard.



Please remember to follow what your child is doing in Nursery on their online learning journal. Your own comments in

response to our observations are very much appreciated.



The children's learning journeys are also recorded in their group 'Talking and Thinking Books'. These are available for you to look at in the welcome room.



The nursery staff are looking forward to meeting with you at our Keyworker Consultations next week. These provide us with an opportunity to discuss the progress your child is making, both socially and in their learning. Please make sure you sign up for a meeting on the sheets on the wall in the entrance to the nursery. If you are not able to attend on the date given, speak to your child's keyworker and other arrangements can be made at a mutually convenient time. Please note that we do not offer appointments for parents of children who have started in their nursery class this term.



At Stockbridge Nursery, we pride ourselves in being approachable and having excellent relationships with our families. If you have issues you wish to discuss regarding any aspect of your child or their experience in nursery, please speak to myself or a member of the nursery team at drop off time or make an appointment to have a chat.



On the last Friday of every month, our parents hold a Garden Gathering and bake sale in our nursery garden. These run from the end of the morning session

(11.40) until the start of the afternoon session (12.20) and give parents and children the chance to socialise in the garden whilst raising funds. Money raised is used to buy plants and other items for the nursery garden as well as other resources to enhance the children's learning experiences. The amount raised along with what it has been spent on is displayed on the parent noticeboard after the sale. The bake sale on the first week of term raised over £45 which was used to buy plants and seeds for the garden.



Many thanks to all parents who bake for these sales and help run them. In particular, I would like to say a big thank you to Phoebe, mum of Zachary from the morning class, who organises and publicises the Garden Gatherings.



Thank you to all parents who attended this term's Parents' Action Group (PAG) coffee morning last week. The minutes of this meeting will be sent out via ParentMail and displayed on the parent noticeboard.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS



Apart from on Garden Gathering days, please ensure that you leave promptly with your child at pick-up time. Do not allow children to play in the nursery garden at pick up time. Unlike the school playground, the nursely garden is not an open playground and will be locked from

11.40 until 12.20 whilst staff have their lunch break.



In order to keep our cloakroom system working and to ensure its daily cleaning, it is important to leave the floor clear. Please make sure you put your child's indoor shoes into their shoe bag at the end of each session and continue to keep the cloakroom space and entrance clear of scooters, prams etc.



Please ensure that your child's cloakroom bag has a full set of clean clothes in it. If you have any clothes lent to your child from the nursery, please wash and return them as soon as possible.



Please check the lost property basket in the cloakroom for misplaced items. Any unclaimed items are donated to charity a few times a term.



In order to keep up to date with news and information, please check the Parents' Noticeboard regularly.



Please ensure children are prepared for the unpredictable weather. As it gets warmer, please ensure that sunscreen is applied and sunhats are provided.



We are a cash free school, so all money, aside from fundraising and charity donations, must be paid via the ParentPay system. Please check your account and make sure that any outstanding snack or theatre

performance payments have been made. This term's snack payment will be payable next week. If you need any help or support with ParentPay, please contact the school office.



We welcome your ideas and opinions about our nursery. Please take a moment to respond to this month's Question of the Month which you will find on the shelf in the cloakroom. It only takes a moment to put a button in the appropriate jar. A Comment Book is also provided should you wish to use it.

OUR NURSERY TEAM

- **Ms Jill Fraser** : Class Teacher, Keyworker for the Blue group (Monday-Friday, Wednesday admin)
- **Miss Gill McGhee** : Early Years Practitioner, Keyworker for Red group. (Monday-Friday)
- **Mrs Caroline Munro**: Early Years Practitioner, Keyworker for Yellow group (Monday-Thursday, Friday am)
- **Miss Karen Thomson**: Early Years Practitioner, Keyworker for Green group. (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday am, alternate Fridays)
- **Mrs Denise Stewart**: Early Years Practitioner, Keyworker for Green group (Wednesday, Thursday, alternate Fridays)
- **Mrs Laura Smith**: Parent volunteer (Friday am)

This term, we also have Pupil Support Assistants helping in the

morning class during some group times. They are:

- **Ms Sharon Davidson**(Wed)
- **Ms Jen Dallas** (Thursday)
- **Ms Anne O'Connell** (Friday)



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Week beginning Monday 13th May:
Keyworker Consultations

Monday 20th May:
Victoria Day holiday. Nursery closed.

Saturday 25th May:
Stockbridge Primary School Summer Fair.

Friday 31st May:
Garden Gathering

Tuesday 11th June:
Family Sports Day for Preschool children (weather permitting). Bring your child along and join in the fun. Further information to follow.

Monday 24th June:
'Orsun the Octopus' science show and workshop for Preschool children.

Thursday 27th June:
Graduation show. Parents of pre-schoolers are invited to come along to celebrate the children's time at Stockbridge Nursery.

Teddy Bears' Picnic for afternoon group.

Wednesday 29th June:
Last day of term – Happy Holidays

Wishing you all a fantastic term!

Jill Fraser (Nursery Class Teacher)

