



Happy Days
Where Children Shine

Derriford October 2017

Newsletter



Welcome to the October edition of our newsletter and we're already half-way through the Autumn term.

Staff News

We would like to congratulate Ashton in Adventurers 3 on completing her level 2 childcare qualification.

New Families

Please join us in giving a warm welcome to new children who will be starting at our nursery throughout the month of October; Isla, Frankie and Alfie will be starting in our Explorers rooms whilst Reuben will be joining our Adventurers rooms.

Birthdays



We would like to say a big Happy Birthday to William, Nathaniel, Aurora, Amelie, Henry and Oliver who will all be turning 1 this month.

Tabitha, Mia, Arnie and

Alfred will all be celebrating their second birthday, while Jacob, Masie, Oliver, Gracie, Amber, Archibald, Grace, Toby and Faye will all be turning 3. Turning 4 this month will be Maddison, Lola, Cory, Archie, Ted and Thomas. We hope you all enjoy your celebrations and all of the children have a wonderful birthday.

Dates for your Diary

Autumn half-term holiday-23rd-27th October- (No Funding)

Jelly Images Photographer- 18th and 19th October

Christmas Family Fun Day-Saturday 16th December 10am-12pm

Christmas Closure- open until 7pm on 22nd

December and re-open at 7am on 2nd January 2018

Smart Start

All of the children who are now in their last year with us will have started our school readiness programme which we call 'Smart Start'. Each week we have a school readiness topic that we cover with those children transitioning into primary school next September. Each topic has a practitioner support sheet with activity ideas and additional prompts. The current term's overview and accompanying practitioner support sheets are on display in the corridor near the kitchen, should you wish to view these.

All children who have turned 3 should also be in receipt of a free Happy Days polo shirt as part of our Smart Start programme. If your child has yet to receive theirs then please speak to Kerry at reception.

If you would like to receive the half-termly emails with a topic overview and parental suggestions of how to continue with the weekly topic at home, then please ensure you register your email address at reception with Kerry.

Tax Free Childcare Compensation

We understand that some parents have been experiencing long delays when applying for the new Government tax free childcare scheme. As a result of these delays some parents may be entitled to compensation. Further details, please visit the HMRC website:

<http://www.parenta.com/2017/08/14/parents-offered-compensation-over-tax-free-childcare>

Polite Reminders



@HappyDaysChild



Happy.Days.Nursery

www.happydaysnurseries.com

Happy Days Nursery

Unit 3A and 3B Derriford Business Park
Brest road

Plymouth

PL6 5QZ

Admin.derriford@happydaysnurseries.com

01752 786318

Please can we remind all parents that if they do not currently pay their nursery fees through the salary sacrifice scheme at Derriford or the tax free childcare scheme, then fees are payable via direct debit on the first of each month. Please ensure you collect a direct debit form and complete it, from reception as soon as possible.

To ensure we can return items of clothing to their rightful owners, please ensure you write your child's name on their clothing labels.

We understand that some children like to bring in toys from home to show their friends. Can we ask that parents take these home again with them and not leave these in nursery. Firstly, due to small parts these toys may not be suitable for a nursery setting and we do not hold risk assessments for these toys, and secondly, we would not like to see children upset should their toy become broken.

Home Learning- Autumnal Activities Home Learning- Sensory Play



As Autumn is well and truly upon us, you can take the opportunity to explore new scents and senses with your children. There are lots of natural resources that you can use at this time of year to create some simple, yet effective, sensory play. You can use items such as pine cones and leaves to create unusual prints, or try making

your own playdough with autumn spices such as nutmeg, ginger and or cinnamon for a dough with a difference! Dried orange slices and cinnamon sticks along with other spices can also be put into small cloth bags for younger children to explore their senses without any choking hazards.

As always, our staff members would love to hear about any of these activities that you try at home, simply complete a home observation sticker or a wow star and hand in to your child's key person.

Benefits of mixed age groups

Here at Happy Days we pride ourselves in taking note of the best international research in the field of early years education. The term 'family grouping' is given to groups of children of mixed ages and has many benefits for the children as this reflects a family environment. Should you wish to read more about these benefits, please pick up a leaflet from your child's base room.

Extra-Curricular Activities



We have been running our Rugby tots sessions for our Adventurers children as extra-curricular activities.

As the winter months draw in, this will be our last block of these sessions and we will be looking at other activities that we may be able to run for the adventurers children. If parents have any feedback or suggestions then please feel free to pass this on to a member of management. When researching activities we consider costs for parents and also the space needed for these sessions as we have to accommodate winter activities with outdoor space.

We have also been looking into some activities for our younger children in the Explorers rooms. We recently trialed some music and movement sessions with Wendy from Hartbeeps which was very successful and we will hopefully be starting these after the half term holiday in October, with current availability on Wednesday and Thursday mornings. If you would like your child to join these and have not yet registered, please speak with a member of the nursery management team.



Early Years Pupil Premium Funding

Registering could result in extra funding for your child's early years education. We will be sending forms home for parents to review so please ensure you return as soon as possible in order for this additional funding to be applied.

If you would like to receive an emailed version of our monthly newsletter, please give your email address to the nursery office.

Thank you for your continued support.



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