

Newsletter

January 2019

Hi

Welcome back to a brand New Year and the start of the Spring Term. We hope you all had a fabulous Christmas! What an amazing year we had in 2018 and didn't it absolutely fly by!

The Autumn term saw the children settle in well and straight away began to make Dolphins a place they enjoyed being at - we really have had a fun, jam packed few months.

New Menu

Our new Winter Menu is out and covers January, February & March

Children in Need

Once again you blew us away by raising a massive 424.12 - well done to all you children, family & friends.

Policies

All of our operational Policies were updated on 1st November. A complete copy is in the blue file in Reception for you to see/read. We are more than happy to print copy's of a particular Policy, if you wish.

Winter Clothing - coats

Please can you ensure you child is coming into Dolphins with a coat. (children play outside every day and in all weathers. Please could you also ensure they have their name in too - many thanks!

Parent Information Sharing Forms

Will be sent out during January, please could you complete with up to date information regarding your child - and return as soon as possible

Stay & Play Sessions

Wednesday 30th January and Thursday 14th March - both sessions run from 9am - 10am.

Illness

Unfortunately October & November saw a few nasty illness's - ones that we need to ensure do not return. We escalated our already strict hygiene practices throughout the setting and hopefully kept things at bay. However, we do ask that you keep children at home if they are unwell (in order to alleviate any further spread of the usual winter bugs). We understand that some GP's are informing Parents that children do not need to be kept away from Nursery with certain illness's eg. Conjunctivitis & Hand, Foot & Mouth, this is of course quite true - but our previous (many years) experience in dealing with such, has seen certain illness's ravage through our care rooms and witnessed some very poorly children - we simply do not want children to suffer like this (or adults) which is why we have included our own exclusions within our settings Policies.

Please may we remind Parents that we have a 48 hour exclusion for children who have been sick or had diarrhoea.

Daily Diaries - Pre-School *reminder*

There will be no Daily Diaries for children in Pre-School from January 2019 (as part of our 'readiness for school' programme.

Pre-School - Readiness for School (spring term)

By now children will have settled into Pre-school and be aware that changes will occur later on in the year - September, and their impending next steps and start to school life. Below are the areas we will be concentrating on -

- * Continuing to develop overall independence.
- * Further develop listening skills through a range of activities and experiences
- * Cement the process of getting dressed/undressed for P.E. Sessions
- * Talk about 'changes' and introduce and explain all about 'Going to School'
- * Further develop their listening and attention skills as well as 'following simple instructions'.

We have introduced a 'Cafe' system for children's morning snack time. This is where snacks and drinks are available for a period of time and children have the opportunity to access this at their own chosen time, rather than everyone sitting down together - so far it seems to be working well and the children have really taken to making their own decision of when they have their snack (of course this is monitored to ensure all children have something to eat and drink).

Staff

Michelle has taken over the full Managerial role as Sharon & Di have now taken semi-retirement. Both will continue to be in on Tuesdays (as they continue to hold certain roles and responsibilities). We are extremely pleased to welcome both Karen Fraser and Dana Holland to our team in Pre-School

*We understand we have had quite a few changes over the recent months but would like to re-assure Parents that our commitment to the care, learning and development of all children has not changed. We certainly have an extremely strong experienced and qualified team
(way above Ofsted requirements)*

Staffing Structure

Proprietors: Sharon & Di **Manager:** Michelle Cogger **Early Years Admin Manager:** Sarah Cornish

Nursery: Room Leader - Lucy Kyte Deputy Room Leader - Kelly Parker
Early Years Educators - Natasha Hobbs & Dawn Boyer

Toddlers: Room Leader - Becky Curry Deputy Room Leader - Amber Cresswell
Early Years Educators: Emily Lowe, Stacey Appleton, Jess Saracino & Laurie Ellis

Pre-School: Room Leader - Dawn Jeffrey Deputy Room Leader - Rebecca Hole
Early Years Educators: Lacey Owens, Emily Huish-May, Shannon Brazier, Karen Fraser & Dana Holland

Clubs: Leader - Lacey Owens Deputy - Emily Huish-May Play Workers - Shannon, Karen & Dana

Room Information Booklets

Due to the changes in staffing, their days and hours ect - we will no longer be issuing Room Information Booklets. From now on all new starters will have a photo of their Key Worker downloaded onto Tapestry. We have devised a Room Information Sheet for when children move from our Nursery Room up into our Toddler Room (we already have a Readiness for School information letter for children going into Pre-School)

Dolphins New App.

We hope you are all accessing our new app and enjoying being kept up to date with everything.

Invoices - reminder

We will be sending out invoices via email from now on so will be collecting Parents/Carers chosen email addresses where they would like them sent.

Payment of Fees - reminder

All payments for fees will need to be sent via BACS (on-line banking). We will only accept cash or cheques for any extra's you may have incurred.

February Half Term Holiday Club

Is from Monday 18th to Friday 22nd February.

If you require any care during this time, please book as soon as you can as spaces are limited.

Kind Regards
Sharon, Di, Michelle and the Team

