



Newsletter

2-3s Nursery December 2016



Dorking Nursery School and Children's Centre, West Street, Dorking, Surrey, RH4 1BY,
Tel: 01306 882397/admin@dorking.surrey.sch.uk

Dear Parents and Carers

Here we are already preparing for the festive season ahead! Time definitely does fly when you are having fun. Thank you to everyone for being so patient during the recent chimney restoration works on the roof. The chimney has been capped and we have been informed by Surrey that this is just phase one of a whole roof restoration, so there will be more disruption to come. We will of course keep you informed at every stage.

Now that your children have spent a term with us, we really want your feedback on our induction process. We welcome all feedback, both positive and constructive as this helps us plan our processes for the future. You will receive a link to complete this on Survey Monkey shortly and will only take you a few minutes to do so. If you have not got it via Parentmail, please type the following into a browser:- <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/2-3s2016>

Thank you also to those of you who completed the recent survey about the new +15 hours of early years entitlement which will come into effect in September 2017. I am meeting with the Governing Body before the end of term and will be writing to you all about your admissions for the 3-5s nursery in due course.

Christmas!

You will have noticed the nursery beginning to get more festive. The children are busy preparing and learning songs for you on the 19th or 20th December. Please make sure you know which session you are coming to. It is really important all the children have someone to share this experience with...plus there might be a little something special for you!

Christmas lunch will take place on Thursday 15th December for those children who are already settled into Lunch club. If your child does lunch club already and you would like them to have Christmas lunch with us, then please talk to Sarah.

Finally, we finish for the Christmas break on Wednesday 21st December and nursery will open on Wednesday 4th January 2017! On behalf of myself and all the team, we wish you a wonderful break and hope you all enjoy some quality family time over the festive season.

Car park

We continue to have a few 'repeat offenders' using our car park for drop off and pick up. I have also had a complaint from a resident in the flats opposite as well as from the Pet Shop. As I have said on many occasions, we only have 6 spaces but 100 children. I need all parents to respect this and remind you that you are all informed of the parking situation when offered a place with us. Myself, Becky and Sarah are spending too much time sorting out disputes. Please can you pass this message on to other relatives and friends who might collect your child, including childminders and grandparents, etc.

Fundraising

The FOND committee have been busy working hard and have got a wonderful hamper and some other prizes on offer in the Christmas Raffle. Tickets are only £1 - so please buy these soon. The draw will be made on Monday 19th December. We are also asking for donations of dried/tinned food for the local food bank. If you are able to donate a tin of something, we would be very grateful!

FOND have some exciting ideas for fundraising in the spring term - watch this space!

Thank you to everyone who has voted for us on the Aviva Web page for the Community Fund. We have made it as a finalist - which means the £1,000 grant towards our ICT equipment is getting closer!

Thank you for your support!

Kathy & Emma

(FOND Representatives)

Governors

You will know from previous letters that we have been looking for Parent Governors to join our Governing Body. Kathy (Jack's mum in 2-3s) will be joining us and so will Clover, (Frankie and Max's mum in 2-3s and 3-5s).

From the classroom

You think you've told a story clearly and simply but then....after watching the adults re-tell the story of the Nativity; one child pointed to the tinsel that was the Angels halo and said "I want that hat....the one the alien weared!"

Attendance

Currently, attendance for our 2-3s group is 88.1%. We have a number of children whose attendance has fallen below this. We will be starting to inform parents of their individual child's attendance at parent meetings. As a school run nursery, we monitor attendance very closely, particularly for those children accessing our priority places. We ask you to notify us each day if your child is absent, or the office will make contact with you. This is part of our Attendance and Safeguarding Policy. If children accessing our priority places are persistently absent, the Governing Body has a duty to reconsider a place or even withdraw it.

Lunch club and additional sessions

Don't forget, if you would like your child to come to lunch club, just speak to Tracey or Sarah.

Also, from January, we have some availability to offer additional sessions for your children if you are interested. They are limited, so please speak to Tracey or Sarah as soon as possible.

If your turns 3 this term, ie before the 31st December, the costs of your child's session will be covered by the Government Free Entitlement for 3 year olds. Nicky will be sending you a form in due course to complete so that we can claim this.

Parent Evening

Thank you to all the parents who attended our parent evening in November! This evening was really well attended and the feedback was excellent! Tracey, Marian and Joanna shared some wonderful insights into the 'secret lives of our 2 and 3 year olds' at Dorking Nursery! One parent wrote; 'a great evening, much enjoyed and of immense value!' Our next Parent Evening will take place on Tuesday 28th February!



Diary Dates

Please make a note of the following dates for your information:-

Monday 19th or Tuesday 20th December - Christmas Celebration - see your separate letter from Tracey

Wednesday 21st December - Last day of term

Thursday 22nd December - Monday 2nd January - Nursery closed for Christmas break

Tuesday 3rd January - INSET Day - Nursery closed for staff training

Wednesday 4th January - Start of term for nursery

Tuesday 28th February - Parents Evening, 7pm

Best Wishes

Donna Harwood-Duffy

Headteacher (head@dorking.surrey.sch.uk)

