



# Newsletter

## Issue 1 Autumn 2019

### Welcome

A warm welcome to all our new parents and children from the staff at John Bears Nursery. We are so impressed by how quickly all the children have settled in over the last few weeks. New friendships are being made, and there has already been some great learning going on both inside and outside.

As in the main school it is our intention to send out a newsletter regularly to keep you updated with things that are going on in the nursery. However, we are aware that questions or concerns may arise, especially with everything being so new. We hope that everyone feels part of our new Nursery community, and we want you to feel that you can come in and talk to us at any time about anything. If you do have any concerns or worries please feel free to pop in. We will do our best to answer your queries and if we don't know the answer straight away then we will do our best to find out. If we know about something then we can help to sort it out before it becomes an issue.

We are all really excited about the new school year ahead and look forward to sharing it with you.

### Dates for your Diary

18.10.19—28.10.19 half term holiday (term time only children)

18.10.19—28.10.19 Holiday Club

9.12.19 Christmas Performance  
11.30am at the Jubilee Centre  
Further details to follow soon

10.12.19 Family Learning Day.  
Further details to follow soon.

11.12.19 Christmas Performance  
2.30pm at the Jubilee Centre  
Further details to follow soon

**18.12.19 - Nursery closes for  
Christmas at 3.00 pm**

### John Bear's Nursery Who We All Are

Mrs Godbold is our morning nursery teacher and Mrs Atthill takes that role in the afternoons. Ms Firth is our Nursery Manager and she will be at nursery everyday from 10.15am until when nursery closes at 6.15 pm. Miss Seals is our Deputy Manager and she is at nursery everyday from 7.15 am until 3.15 pm. Mrs Howes works as our teaching assistant all day from Monday to Thursday and helps run the Breakfast Club. Miss Riches is also a teaching assistant and she works every morning as well as Monday, Tuesday and every other Friday afternoon. Miss Mason works as a teaching assistant every afternoon through to 6.15 pm, running our Tea Clubs with Ms Firth. Miss Garrard supports the children at lunch time each day and also works as a teaching assistant on a Tuesday and Wednesday morning and all day Friday. We also have Miss Hyam, Mrs Henderson and Mrs Ives working as Bank Staff throughout the week. Mrs Nutt is our nursery administrator and she is in the office everyday from 8.45am until 3.15pm to answer all your nursery questions. All our photographs are in the entrance way so please have a look to see who we all are.

### Invoice reminder

Thank you to everyone who has made full or part payment of their recent invoices. Please remember that at least 50% of your invoice should have been paid by 27th September. The remainder is due by 8th November. If you have any queries please speak to Claire Nutt in the office.

## Planning In the Moment

Since the new nursery opened in September last year we have adopted a way of working in the Nursery called 'planning in the moment'. It is based on the work of Anna Ephgrave and throughout last year we have been developing our practise based on her training. Rather than planning activities for the children in which the adult takes the lead, in 'planning in the moment' the adult watches the children's play, identifies how to move the child's skills or learning on and then supports them to do this in that moment. As a result the teaching is more closely matched to the children's individual needs and interests.

As part of our 'planning in the moment', each week we have a number of children whose play and learning we focus on in particular. You will be given a letter the week before and invited to tell us more about your child's interests and learning at home. It is also an opportunity for you to ask us about anything you would like to know about their progress and development. Your child's key worker will also arrange to meet with you after your child's focus week to discuss what has been observed and answer any questions you may have.

## Lunches

Please can you not put any nuts in the children's lunch boxes as they can be a choking hazard, but also because of potential allergies. We would also be grateful if you could not put sweets or chocolate bars in there too. Thank you

The school meal menu can be found here

[www.johngaunt.norfolk.sch.uk/parents/carers/school-meals/](http://www.johngaunt.norfolk.sch.uk/parents/carers/school-meals/)

## Going Home Box

We will continue to do our best to put any of your child's art work or writing into their book bags regularly.

However, please feel free to check the 'going home' box for yourselves.

## Breakfast and Tea Club

At John Bear's Nursery we also run a breakfast and tea club which is proving to be both useful to parents and popular with the children. It is available to all children from the nursery and John of Gaunt School.

Breakfast Club starts at 7.30am through to 9.00am with a range of breakfast foods on offer. The children from John of Gaunt are accompanied down to school for the start of their school day.

Tea Club 1 starts as soon as nursery and school finishes and again the children from school are accompanied up to the Nursery by an adult. There is a small snack available for all the children at about 3.30pm.

Tea Club 2 starts at 4.30pm and runs through until 6.00pm. There is a more substantial snack at about 5.00pm. Children joining us at the end of after school clubs are again accompanied by an adult up to the Nursery.

## Spare Clothes and Wellies

Thank you for bringing in a pair of wellies for your child to use as outdoor shoes. They are all becoming increasingly independent about changing them.

We have been very lucky with the weather so far but as we encourage the children to explore outside in most weathers, please can you make sure that your child comes with appropriate clothes for going outside.

We also require all the children to have a spare set of clothes in a small bag on their peg which will need to be replenished when used, and again appropriate for the time of year.

Please can you name all items of clothing and footwear.

## Children's Diaries

The children's diaries are an opportunity for the children to share learning that has happened at home and at Nursery.

When the children arrive at their session there is a different daily task for you to do with your child which is related to our theme in Nursery.

We will put your child's diary in their book bag ready for the weekend as we especially love to hear their weekend news or about any 'Wow' moments. Feel free to add comments, photos, pictures etc.

We do share the children's diaries during our carpet sessions and they are always pleased to show their friends what they have been doing.

## Car Park

The car park should only be used by parents or carers who have children at Nursery. We know that there is an issue with the number of spaces especially as busy times but remember you can use the parking at the Jubilee Centre and at the Bure Valley Railway car park during opening hours. The parking cones are there for the safety of the children. Please do not move them. We have also been made aware of children being left alone in cars outside Nursery. The law doesn't say an age when you can leave a child on their own, but it is an offence to leave a child alone if it places them at risk. It is for you as a parent to use your judgement on how mature your child is before you decide to leave them alone in a car. However, the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) recommends that babies, toddlers and very young children should never be left alone.

## Book Bags

Please take the time to choose one book with your child to take home and share. They can change it as often as they like. There are books in boxes at both ends of the room as well as in our book area.

## WellComm

Supporting the children's speech and language is an important part of our role in the Nursery and we now have an exciting new resource to help us. WellComm is a complete speech and language toolkit which helps with the early identification of a range of speech and language development issues as well as providing a way of keeping track of all the children's progress. If you have any concerns about your child's speech and language or would like to know more about WellComm then please talk to your child's key person.

## Attendance

If your child is unwell or not attending Nursery, please can you let Mrs Nutt know in the office by 9.30am.

## Reminders

- \* John of Gaunt, including the Nursery and the car park, is a non smoking site and this includes vaping
- \* As you are aware there is not a lot of room in our entrance way so please can you continue to leave buggies and car seats outside, in the covered area.
- \* Please check your child's book bag regularly as there may well be letters in there for you.

For further updates then please see the John Bear's Nursery Facebook page.