



Newsletter

Issue 1 Autumn 2020

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. If you do have any concerns or worries please feel free to either email or phone myself or Mrs Nutt. 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

Dates for your Diary

19. 10. 20 Tempest Individual photos—Nursery only. More details to follow

22.10. 20—2.11. 20 half term holiday (term time only children)

22.10. 20—2.11. 20 Holiday Club (Covid guidelines dependent)

18.12.20 - Nursery closes for Christmas

Nursery telephone number

01263 734028

Stephanie Firth
Claire Nutt

Nursery Manager
Nursery Administrator

manager@johnbearsnursery.org.uk
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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 Hyam is our Lead Practitioner and she is at nursery everyday from 7.15 am until 3.15 pm. She and Mrs Crane, one of our Bank Staff, run the Breakfast Club. Miss Riches is also a teaching assistant and she works every morning as well as some afternoons. 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 Wednesday and Friday afternoon. We also have Mrs Mills and Miss Crane 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.

Hello from Mrs Toplis, Head of School

Welcome back or Welcome to our school and nursery. We hope that you will very soon feel part of our school community. I am so proud of how well all our Nursery children have settled in and how amazingly they have waved goodbye to you at the gate or door. We have all had a very happy start to the new school year.



Planning In the Moment

Since the nursery opened 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 the 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 talk with you after your child's focus week to discuss what has been observed and answer any questions you may have. Given the current restrictions we are still working on the best way for this to happen.

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. Whole grapes are also a choking hazard so please can you cut them in half. We would also be grateful if you could not put sweets or chocolate bars in there too. Thank you.

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 currently only available to children from the nursery.

Breakfast Club starts at 7.30am through to 9.00am with a range of breakfast foods on offer.

Tea Club 1 starts as soon as nursery finishes. 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.

Wellies, Waterproofs and Spare Clothes

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.

Please can you bring in either a pair of waterproof trousers, a set of waterproofs or an all-in-one for your child to wear outside when they are exploring.

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, including a sun hat for those late summer days that we have been having.

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.

Water Bottles

Please can you provide a water bottle for your child. This needs to come in to the room with them, rather than be left in their lunch box, as they need access to it throughout the session. Please can you make sure that there is water in their drink bottles rather than juice. We do understand that some children do not like water and if that is the case then please can you water down the juice as much as possible. This is a great opportunity to encourage them to drink water.

Gentle reminder

As explained in the parental guidance which came from Mrs Toplis, our Head of School, please can you leave the nursery site as soon as you have dropped your child off. It is really important that the car park is not used as a place for social gatherings.

Book Bags

We will be encouraging your child to choose a book each week to bring home and share with you. Please also check your child's book bags regularly for their art work and any letters that have been sent home.

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 email Ms Firth or phone the nursery.

Invoice reminder

Thank you to everyone who has made full or part payment of their recent invoices. Please remember that your invoice must be paid in full by 16th October. If you have any queries please speak to Claire Nutt in the office.

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

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