

MILLAND VALLEY NURSERY SCHOOL

Newsletter January 2020

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Term Dates 2020

Spring Term	Tuesday 7 Jan'20 – Thu 2 Apr'20
Half Term	Monday 17 Feb'20 – Thursday 20 Feb'20
Summer Term	Monday 20 Apr'20 – Thursday 16 Jul'20(12noon)
Half Term	Monday 25 May'20 – Thursday 28 May'20
Autumn Term	Monday 7 Sep'20 – Tuesday 15 Dec'20 (12noon)
Half Term	Monday 26 Oct'20 – Thursday 29 Oct'20

Term Dates 2021

Spring Term	Tuesday 5 Jan'21 – Thursday 1 Apr'21
Half Term	Monday 15 Feb'21 – Thursday 18 Feb'21
Summer Term	Monday 19 Apr'21 – Tuesday 20 July'21(12noon)
Half Term	Monday 31 May'21 – Thursday 3 June'21

Dates for your Diary

Parent Group Meeting	Monday 20 Jan'20 – Committee Room
Quiz Night	Date TBC (Feb/Mar'20)

PARENT GROUP MEETING

This is an informal group meeting held in the Committee Room at 9.15am. Discussions generally cover the day to day running of the nursery, together with future plans and ideas. Please do come along if you can make it. Good way to meet new parents. We do not discuss individual children.

QUIZ NIGHT

We have had some parents come forward to help organise this event, but we are looking for more helpers. This will make the task much easier for everyone. If you can help in any way, please speak to Sarah.

NATIVITY

Thank you for helping make the Nativity such a successful event for the children. Record attendance!! Special thanks to Anna Hyndman who manned the refreshments for us, Sally Carter selling raffle tickets, Ollie Carter who arrived "very early" to help set up the stage, Ben Gurney and "Findlays" who stayed behind to help clear the stage and chairs. A big thankyou to everyone who helped us on the day if we have not mentioned you. It is all very much appreciated by all the staff.

NEW EQUIPMENT/TOYS

Many thanks for your generosity at our Nativity. With the money raised from the raffle and refreshments, together with the commission from the purchase of the photographs we have £300 to spend on new toys/equipment. The staff are busy compiling "wish lists" and we will soon be purchasing items.

SESSIONS AVAILABLE

We still have a few sessions available on most days. If you would like to increase your child's sessions please speak to Sarah.

HOME TOYS AT NURSERY

We do understand and welcome new children starting with us having a “comforter” at nursery. Some younger children may also require a little support. We aim to gradually reduce the need for these items by placing them in their trays for periods of time, then in their bags in the cloakroom until they feel happy to be with us without the item. **However, some of our older children are now attending nursery with their own toys from home. This does cause the staff problems with items getting lost, put in our storage cupboard and even accidentally broken. We feel this is also undermining our “focus” week when children are invited to bring along items that are important to them. Your support would be greatly appreciated if you could keep all toys in the car or at home.**

CLOTHING/PERSONAL POSSESSIONS

Now the weather is changing and most definitely colder, would you please ensure your child has warm clothing and extra layers, such as a fleece. This is of particular importance for **TUESDAY AFTERNOON and WEDNESDAY MORNING**. The children will also need gloves, hats, scarves and possibly two pairs of socks for wellies very soon. We do like to take the children out in the rain, but this is not possible if your child does not have a suitable hooded coat.

WELLINGTON BOOTS ARE NEEDED EVERY DAY.

For a variety of reasons, your child may need a change of clothes during the session. Would you please supply a spare set of clothes and leave on their pegs. Please do not use plastic carrier bags.

*****ALL PERSONAL POSSESSIONS/CLOTHING MUST BE CLEARLY LABELLED ***- .Lunch boxes, coats and boots a priority.**

LUNCH BOXES

Please check that your child’s lunch box is clearly marked with their name. Sausages, grapes and tomatoes should all be cut in half down the length of the item.

Due to the severity of food allergies, please ensure your child’s lunch box does not contain any foods with a **nut** content, e.g., cereal, muesli bars etc. This will enable us to ensure there is no cross contamination. Your full cooperation would be appreciated. We would also remind you that in keeping with healthy eating PLEASE **DO NOT PUT SWEETS** in your child’s lunch. Lunch box suggestions can be found on our notice board

WATER BOTTLES

PLEASE make sure the bottle is clearly marked with your child’s name. We will have a permanent marker to hand and would ask you please to write your child’s name on the bottle. Labels do not work.

Please remember to take all your child’s possessions home at the end of their last session each week – the cloakroom needs to be empty for other users at the weekend.

We are always there to help the children with their clothing, but it is important they gain independence in this area – please ensure your child is dressed appropriately.

LOST PROPERTY

During the term we will put out all clothing that has been left at the hall. Please look through and take anything belonging to you. We will take all unclaimed/unwanted clothing to a charity shop.

FEES

The hourly rate is £6.50 (£19.50 per 3 hour session).. Additional charges - French on Tuesday morning for the Oaks £1.50 pw, Wednesday Music session 1pm for all children £1.50pw. Please speak to Gill if you have any queries regarding your invoice.

Invoices are sent out at the start of each half term by email and we would ask you make payment promptly. Funded children (following their third birthday) are entitled to 15 hours per week of free nursery time. There is funding available for some two year olds, but there are clear guidelines on who is eligible – dependent on income. If you would like further information please speak to Sarah/Gill.

We are open 38 weeks per year. You can pay directly into our account via bacs – our bank details are: Santander, A/c Name: Milland Valley Nursery School, Sort Code: 09-06-66, A/c No.:40249735, Ref.: your child's name.

30 HOURS EXTENDED FUNDING

If you are already claiming the extended funding, please check to see if you are in the “grace” period and need to renew your claim.

The following link with help regarding the above extended funding.

www.gov.uk/help-with-childcare-costs/free-childcare-and-education-for-2-to-4-year-olds

The extended 30 hours per week funding is available if both parents are working and earn the equivalent of 16 hours at the minimum wage per week currently £8.21p per hour (if you are a single parent and working you can also apply for the 30 hours) – there is an upper earnings limit of £100,000 per parent. The HMRC have a very good website regarding Early Years funding, together with a calculator to work out if you are eligible. Please let us know if you intend to claim the extra 15 hours.

SIGNING IN – SELF REGISTRATION

Please remember to sign your child in and out at every session. These records are very important and must show an accurate account of children attending each session.

The photos kept on the table by the signing in book is the children's “self registration”. We would ask you to encourage your child to look for their photo and place on the board inside the hall.

KEEPING UP TO DATE

It is extremely important that all the information we have on record is up to date. This includes contact information (telephone numbers/emails, etc) and most important any dietary requirements/allergies your child may have.

ON LINE TAPESTRY/JOURNALS – CARE DIARY

It is very important that everyone looks at their child's journals on a regular basis. Input from home is extremely valuable, giving a much clearer picture of how your child is developing and the progress being made. There is a “Care Diary” facility that can be found under the menu tab. We are using the toileting icon. This will detail times when your child has had their nappy changed, or when it has been necessary to change clothing due to toileting.

WHITEBOARD

If you see the whiteboard outside the hall, please do take a few moments to read what is on it. This is a quick and effective way to get up to date information/requests out to everyone.

SOCIAL NETWORKING POLICY

Staff are becoming a little concerned and worried that they might offend some of you by declining “friendship” requests on social networking sites. We would like to advise you that they are following our policy guidelines regarding this issue and perhaps it would be easier if requests were not submitted. Your cooperation in this matter would be appreciated.

COLLECTION

****Prompt collection/leaving at the end of each session please****. The extra minutes delays us considerably with continuing the afternoon sessions and clearing away. It is extremely important when we hand your child to you at the end of any session you keep them by your side (together with siblings). The hall can become congested and noisy as we are putting equipment away. Please be careful when leaving the nursery.

ILLNESS

Please read our policy “Sick Child/Illness Policy”. We would like to highlight the statement regarding children not returning to nursery for a minimum of 48 hours after the last bout of sickness and/or diarrhoea.

CHANGE IN ROUTINE

If there is a change in routine regarding your child at nursery, i.e. someone else collecting at the end of the session, etc.; please enter all relevant details on the sheet in the signing in book.

Please telephone if there is an unexpected change and remember to let us know if your contact details have changed, i.e., mobile phone. We are unable to let children go home with anyone else without authorisation from parents (even best friends!).

EMAIL – mvns1@hotmail.com

Please, please remember to check your emails. This is the quickest way for us to get information to you regarding nursery. Please let us know if your email address changes.

However, if you need to speak to us, or get information to us, it is always advisable to phone. Although we check the emails regularly, at weekends or during holidays there is always the possibility that we will not access the email address daily and therefore could miss something important.

If you would like to make contact with other parents through our email, please speak to Sarah before doing so.

This newsletter is available on the web site www.mvns.co.uk

GH/SM Jan'20