

MILLAND VALLEY NURSERY SCHOOL

Newsletter Feb 2022

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Term dates 2022

Spring Term	Tuesday 4 Jan '22- Thursday 7 April'22
Half Term	Monday 21Feb'22- Thursday 24 Feb'22
Summer Term	Monday 25 April'22-Thursday 21 July '22 (noon)
Half Term	Monday 30 May'22-Thursday 2 June'22
Autumn Term	Monday 5 Sept'22-Tuesday 13 th Dec'22
Half Term	Monday 24 Oct'22- Thursday 27 Oct'22

Term dates 2023

Spring Term	Wednesday 4 Jan'23-Thursday 30 Mar'23
Half Term	Monday 13 Feb'23-Thursday 16 th Feb'23
Summer Term	Monday 17 Apr'23- Thursday 18 Jul'23
Half Term	Monday 29 May'23- Thursday 1 June'23

Outing to Gilbert White Field Study Centre Monday 20th June (details to follow)

**Please remember to follow all the guidelines regarding Covid-19 this term (see below)
Please wear a mask at drop off and pick up. Staff will wear one on the door and some may choose to wear one during the session. We will continue with thorough and regular hand washing for the children and staff. Hand sanitiser will be available. Please ensure no extra toys come in from home. Equipment at the nursery will be cleaned regularly. We will continue to spend as much time outside as possible providing a varied curriculum for the children.**

We are looking for a temporary member of staff for the summer term- if anyone knows someone who may be suitable, please ask them to contact us on our email. Sadly this cannot be an existing parent.

Collection of Children

We feel it is now time to slowly begin to allow parents and carers back into the setting. We are going to start with collection time. The main wooden door will be unlocked prior to collection at 12, 1pm and 3pm. You will be able to come in to pick your child up with their belongings. **Please wear a mask.** Please do not enter the toilet area, stay and chat to other parents inside or dawdle! We feel it is really important to slowly get back to this for the staff, children and families.

If you are not comfortable with this then we will of course, take your child to wash their hands and hand them too you on the door.

Music Sessions

Very sadly our lovely Kindermusik teacher Ali, has had to step back for a while as she has not been well and has been advised to rest as much as possible. We wish her a speedy recovery and look forward to her return. We are very lucky that Shirley has stepped in with her wonderful, creative music lessons on a Monday morning. Those of you that attend her Friday morning classes will know what a treat is in store for the children!

Quiz Night

We are very much hoping that we can get together a team of volunteers to run this hugely popular social fundraiser this year! We squeezed one in 2 years ago just before the pandemic started but sadly missed one last year. This event raises money for the Memorial Hall and helps keeps our rent down. The hall committee strives to keep it in good order and as the major users (and abusers!) we appreciate the ongoing upkeep. The quiz night is historically run by a group of 4 ish parents and held in the Rising Sun Pub. Any questions, please ask.

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, please let a member of staff know or phone the setting. PLEASE RING AND DO NOT EMAIL or TEXT US AS WE DO NOT HAVE TIME TO KEEP CHECKING FOR EMAILS AND TEXTS. Emails are fine for absences or things that are not immediate

FEES

The hourly rate is £7 per hour. There is to be a small increase at Easter (£7.25) to cover our ever-increasing costs

Additional charges:

French on Tuesday morning for the Oaks £1.75 pw,

Monday Music session 10am for all children £1.75pw.

Woodworking Wednesday morning & Thursday pm for the Oaks £6 per term.

These charges are necessary to help us maintain the high standards we always strive to achieve at each session through training for our staff, resources and insurance etc. 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.

SESSION ROUTINE

We will be using the main front wooden doors. Please queue round the side of the building, remembering social distancing at all times.

PLEASE RE-READ AND COMPLY WITH ALL EMAILS REGARDING COVID-19 GUIDELINES AND CHANGES TO THE SESSION ROUTINES AT NURSERY.

Unless your child is a 'new' child please do not come into the setting at the start. Children will need to be handed over to a member of staff at the door. Individual arrangements can be discussed.

While we will be meeting on a termly basis to discuss your child's wellbeing and progress, if there is anything that occurs that is of that day's concern and might affect the enjoyment of the session please don't hesitate to mention to the staff on the door or ask for a brief chat with a member of staff at drop off.

Your help and understanding is greatly appreciated.

NO HOME TOYS AT NURSERY PLEASE (unless it is your child's 'Focus week')

ILLNESS

COVID-19 If your child is at all unwell, possibly showing signs of a temperature, cough, etc., please keep them at home and seek medical advice if necessary. If at all possible do a Lateral Flow Test. 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. Please consider keeping them off for 48 hours if they have a temperature.

CLOTHING/PERSONAL POSSESSIONS (ALL TO BE CONTAINED IN A BAG FOR LIFE TO ALLOW EASY ACCESS)

IN ACCORDANCE WITH PANDEMIC GUIDELINES WINDOWS ARE KEPT OPEN DURING THE SESSION.
Would you please ensure your child has very warm clothing and extra layers, such as a fleece, gilet to wear inside. The children will need warm hats and gloves, 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. **Please provide spare clothing for your child** including socks!

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.

WELLINGTON BOOTS ARE NEEDED EVERY DAY.

We feel the 'bag for life' system is working so well.... In fact it is the only good thing to have come out of the covid epidemic!

*****ALL PERSONAL POSSESSIONS/CLOTHING MUST BE CLEARLY LABELLED ***** Lunch boxes, water bottles, 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. Whilst we have no noticeboard, we are happy to help with lunch box suggestions

WATER BOTTLES should be named clearly please

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 £8.72p 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.

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. We also use the First Aid facility, so if your child has an accident, we will ask you to sign our ipad. The download will then be emailed to you.

FOCUS CHILD

This is when your child will have a chance to share their interests with us. The week before we will have a chat with them, asking them what they like doing, any particular interests or what they've been up to. It would really help us if you can put anything on Tapestry **the week before** to prompt us and your child. For example, a trip to the beach and then maybe your child could bring in some shells they had found. Photos are great too. This week really helps us to get to know your child and see how we can help expand their play and learning.

OAK OR ACORN?

Several people have asked me what group their child is! Acorns are up to the year before school, Oaks are the final year at nursery before reception.

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.

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. Let us know if your email 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 Feb 22