

Mill Field Nursery

Spring Term Newsletter

Happy New Year

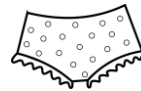
Happy new year to all our families and welcome to everyone who has joined us this term. All our new children are settling in really well. Please ask a member of staff if you have any questions regarding our nursery routines or activities.



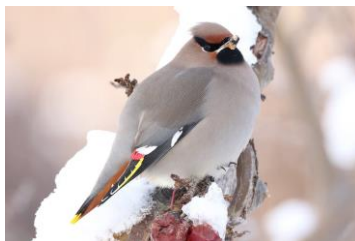
Please remember that our morning session is from 9.00am -12.00pm. If you collect your child at the end of a morning session please ensure you are punctual as the afternoon children arrive at this time.

Spare clothes.

Please include a jumper in your child's change of clothes as the weather has turned colder. Your child will also need a hat and gloves this term as our outside area is always open whatever the weather!



As part of our topic on Winter, we will be finding out about changes to the weather and how to care for animals in the environment. We will be making bird feeders so the children can bring them home and put them in the garden. We are also hoping to take the children to Golden Acre Park to look for birds in their habitats.



Please remember that you can choose a book each day from the book corner to share at home with your child. Talking to children about books, stories and pictures will help develop their speaking and listening skills



Remember to choose one with a green sticker and if it gets torn or damaged, please let us know so we can repair or replace it.

Chinese New Year

Chinese new year is on Friday 16 February 2018 and is the main Chinese festival of the year. We encourage all our children to learn about other cultures as it helps to develop their understanding of the world around them.

Our activities this term will include making paper lanterns, designing a 'lucky' red envelope and taking part in a Chinese dance workshop.



Packed lunches.

As a school, we are committed to encouraging healthy eating.

If your child brings a packed lunch, please do not include fizzy drinks or sweets. Water is always available. If you send grapes, please will you make sure you cut them long ways. Small children can choke on grapes.



30 hours

The government have introduced 30 hours free child care for eligible families. If you think you may be eligible please go to <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/> and check.

If you are not eligible and would like extra nursery sessions, they may be available and cost £12.50 per session.

Areas of Learning

Here are a few things we are doing in Nursery and some ideas for you to help your child at home.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development - to support this area of learning we are giving the children opportunities to follow routines and take turns. Sharing is also an area we will be encouraging.

Communication and Language - in this area we are focusing on listening skills. The children will be focusing on a book called Betty and the Yeti and learning actions to help them retell the story.

Physical Development - our outdoor area has activities to encourage large physical movements and to use these movements with control. Inside the nursery we will have activities to develop small, fine motor movements. Some of these are obvious such as pencils and pens, but finger painting and pouring the water with increasing control also help to develop these skills.

Literacy - we are using lots of stories to develop the children's literacy skills. We will also be building a repertoire of nursery rhymes. Please encourage your child to talk about stories and join in with rhymes at home.

Mathematics - all our maths is taught using practical activities. The language of maths can be used in all aspects of our lives. At home you can encourage your child to compare quantities and use the words "more" and "less". Looking for numbers as you travel to and from nursery. Door numbers, bus numbers and car number plates are all places to look.

Understanding the World - we are encouraging the children to look at animals in Winter this term and looking at how Chinese New Year is celebrated around the world.

Expressive Art and Design - the paint and collage areas are both very popular. Children enjoy exploring colour and texture. Ask your child what they have painted or drawn to encourage them to use their imagination.

Thank you for your support

Mrs Grady, Mrs Stebbings and Mrs Cichorz