



Fir Trees Newsletter

Dear Parents

During this difficult time, I would like to reassure you that we have very strict cleaning and hygiene procedures in place.

I have attached a copy of our parental declaration to this email and will leave paper copies near the porch for you to sign if you have not already done so.

This term you may find that the children are coming home a bit glittery as we celebrate Bonfire Night and Diwali. These activities will lend themselves to lots of sparkly activities and of course baking/cooking, which the children are just loving at the moment.

From Monday 9th November we will be doing lots of Children in Need activities. The children can dress in something spotty or their Children in Need clothes.

We will do a raffle, so please donate a prize if you can. People aren't carrying much actual cash at the moment so if you can collect your change ready for 9th November that would be fantastic.

Key Workers

All Learning Journeys will be sent home towards the end of this term for you to have a look at all the lovely things your children have been doing.

Keyworkers have been able to chat at the door when possible about progress and activities we have been doing. If you have been unable to talk with your Keyworker due to your drop-off times, please let us know and we can arrange a time. This will need to be outside the nursery as we are not able to let any visitors in at the moment.

Fir Trees Nursery School Friends: Facebook page

I think the majority of families are now accessing this closed group page. Thank you to all your contributions as we love seeing all your activities.

Please join if you can as I do find it a very quick and immediate way of putting out information to as many of you as possible.

Reminders and Information for New Families

- Please label all uniform, as several children have the same size and colour.
- Please label all lunch boxes and drinks.
- Please cut all cherry tomatoes, mini sausages and grapes etc. Sausages need to be cut lengthways. This is to avoid possible choking hazards at lunch time.
- Drinks are available throughout the session, but please provide one from home if staying for lunch.
- Croc shoes are very popular but are a trip hazard at nursery during outdoor play.

Phonics, Letters and Sounds

We will be starting to do additional phonics with our July 2021 school leavers to help them with their school transitions. The children will be starting to do activities which encourage recognising sounds at the beginning of words and hearing/repeating words that rhyme. We will eventually move on to sounding out 3 letter words which are phonetically correct. A high proportion of the schools we feed into follow the 'Letters and Sounds' phonics programme and we will be doing lots of rhyming activities, listening to sounds in words and the environment. We will introduce some of the 'Oxford Reading Tree' characters to the children and investigate our Oxford Reading Tree resources.

This complements the Jolly Phonics programme which our younger children participate in when they first start nursery and helps the children understand how sounds form words. We always put a copy of the letter sound we are thinking about near the entrance to the porch for you to take home. Some children make a booklet with them at home.

Government Funding

If you are eligible for 30 hours funding from January 2021, please obtain your code before the end of December 2020. www.childcarechoices.gov.uk

If you already have your 30 hour code, please use the website above to renew your code before the start of every term. If the code is not renewed, you may lose 15 funded hours per week for that term.

Alison Piper
Nursery Owner / Manager