



## Fir Trees Newsletter

**We reopen Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September**

Dear Parents

Welcome back to nursery!!

We are looking forward to seeing you all again.

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

Bags will now go home daily with the children for you to refill if necessary.

During the first couple of weeks, we will focus on the children settling into nursery and help them understand the daily routines.

Can you send in or bring in photographs from home of family, pets or favourite toys to display as we will be using these to help the children feel comfortable in the environment. This also helps us to develop lovely conversations with the children and their friends.

### **Closing times**

Just a reminder that we close at 5pm on Tuesday and 4pm on Friday.

All other days are 5.30pm.

### **Attendance**

We have managed to stay open without any closures. Thank you for your cooperation with keeping children at home who are unwell.

We know it is difficult when you are working to have your children off nursery however it has stopped the spread of so many germs and the need for other children to have PCR testing unnecessarily.

Thank you again!!

### **Toddlers**

If you are in the Toddler Room, can you bring in a cup/beaker we can keep at nursery. We have continuous water available but have set drink times also, where we help the children start to use open beakers when they are ready.

Please send in family photographs for display. The children really enjoy seeing the pictures in the environment.

### **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 would like to have a chat inside, please ask at the door and we will be able to accommodate this at any time.

### **Fir Trees Nursery School Friends: Facebook page**

I think the majority of families are now accessing this closed group page. Thank you to all for 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.

### **Fees**

Our chargeable fees from 6<sup>th</sup> September will be calculated at £5 per hour, plus the daily £1 contribution towards our consumables costs.

If you qualify for two year funding, please let me know before the fees are sent on 1<sup>st</sup> September.

We will email the fees at the beginning of each month.

### **Phonics, Letters and Sounds**

We will be starting to do additional phonics with our July 2022 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.

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 2022, please obtain your code before the end of December 2021. [www.childcarechoices.gov.uk](http://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**