

Banbury School Day Nursery Newsletter

16th January 2023

Important date: Friday 10th March 2023 -
Nursery closes at 4pm.



Welcome back to the new term and new year, we hope you all had a lovely Christmas. The children have all had a brilliant first two weeks back and settled back into the nursery routine well.

Staff

We have some very exciting news to share, Lizzy and Jodie are pregnant and are both due in June, we hope you will join us in wishing them both well.

This week we also welcome Emma and Kelsey back to nursery after their maternity leave, Emma will be returning to be the room leader in Star 2 alongside Lizzy, and Kelsey will be helping to run the moon room alongside Lorraine. They will both be having their own key children and you will be made aware if they will be key worker to your child; you will have the opportunity to meet them over the next few weeks.

In March Lorraine will be celebrating her anniversary of working 30 years at nursery. To celebrate this we will be doing an afternoon tea at nursery with the children; this will be on Friday 10th March and we will be doing this at 2.30pm. After this, the nursery teachers will be taking Lorraine out for a surprise so the nursery will be **closing**

at 4.00pm on this day. If your child attends nursery on Friday afternoon we will change your session.

Parent evening: The next parents' evening has been scheduled for Thursday 23rd February 2023 starting at 7:00pm, we will start to arrange appointments at the beginning of February. Your child's developmental file and scrapbook will be available to look through and a pre-booked time available to have a discussion with your child's key worker about their development and progress and opportunity to ask any questions you may have.

Our supply of spare clothes at nursery is running low, we would really appreciate any spare trousers or leggings that you may be able to donate; alternatively please pack a supply of spare clothes (especially a few pairs of pants and trousers, and babygrows/vests for the Star room) in your child's bookbag in case they have an accident.

Information for Moon room parents

When dropping your child off, please do not put your child's lunchbox on the trolley by the door but instead give it to a member of staff. The lunchboxes may get mixed up with the star room and we want to ensure they have it ready in their room for when they sit down for lunch.

If you have any pets at home, we would appreciate it if you would bring in some pet photos for us to look through and talk about at nursery.

Their next theme will be Pirates and Fairies so if you have any books relating to this please feel free to bring them in for us to read, but please **write your child's name** in the front.

Information for Sun room parents

Recently we have had a lot of superhero/baddies and fighting games in the preschool. We encourage the children not to play these games due to their violent and aggressive nature; we offer alternatives for them and explain why these games are not appropriate for nursery, with this we would appreciate it if you could reiterate this message at home.

Please also encourage your child to not bring toys into nursery or alternatively to leave them in their bookbags. We have had a lot of children bringing toys into nursery that either get forgotten or lost and we wouldn't want them to get upset if they cannot be safely returned. We would advise for example to only bring in a comforter if they need it when they have a sleep during the nursery day.

School readiness

As we enter the new year, we get closer to the majority of our preschool children going to school this September; in April you will find out whether your application for their first choice primary school place has been accepted.

We would like to share some links about School Readiness, with helpful advice for parents, such as skills they need and how to help them with this transition. As always if you have any questions please feel free to speak to any of our preschool team who will be happy to help.

- [Being School Ready - PACEY](#) - this website has a dedicated parents page and includes guides on how to prepare your child in these upcoming months.
- [What is School Readiness?](#) - Oxfordshire County Council have compiled multiple links and resources, including what to expect.
- [Getting Children Ready for School](#) - another helpful page of resources from Oxfordshire County Council.

Other important information - safety for children at home

Sleep and sleep position:

The Lullaby Trust has a dedicated page on the best sleep position for your baby and how this in turn will help to reduce the risk of SIDS. You should always place your baby on their back to sleep and not on their front or side; sleeping your baby on their back (known as the supine position) for every sleep day and night is one of the most protective actions you can take to ensure your baby is sleeping as safely as possible. There is substantial evidence from around the world to show that sleeping your baby on their back at the beginning of every sleep or nap (day and night) significantly reduces the risk of sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS). More information can be found here:

<https://www.lullabytrust.org.uk/safer-sleep-advice/sleeping-position/>.

Other important tips include:

- Place your baby on a firm sleep surface, such as a safety approved crib mattress, covered by a fitted sheet. Never place your baby to sleep on pillows, quilts, sheepskins, and other soft surfaces.
- Keep soft objects, toys, and loose bedding out of your baby's sleep area. Don't use pillows, blankets, quilts, sheepskins, or

pillow-like crib bumpers in your baby's sleep area, and keep all items away from your baby's face.

- Keep your baby's sleep area close to, but separate from, where you and others sleep. Your baby should not sleep in a bed or on a couch or armchair with adults or other children, but he or she can sleep in the same room as you. If you bring your baby into bed with you to breastfeed, put him or her back in a separate sleep area, such as a bassinet, crib, cradle, or a bedside cosleeper (infant bed that attaches to an adult bed) when finished.
- Do not let your baby get overheated during sleep. Dress your baby in light sleep clothing, and keep the room at a temperature that is comfortable for an adult.

Car seats:

The Lullaby Trust have shared key information on research into the link between car seats and SIDS. They found young babies may be at risk of breathing difficulties if they travel while sat upright for too long. If your trip involves driving for long periods of time, you should stop for frequent breaks. This will allow you to check on your baby, take them out of the car seat and let them stretch and move around.

More information and facts can be found here:

<https://www.lullabytrust.org.uk/safer-sleep-advice/car-seats-and-sids/>.

Urgent safety alert issued for baby self-feeding:

The Office for Product Safety and Standards has issued an Urgent Safety Alert for baby self-feeding pillows and is urging the public to stop using them immediately and dispose of them safely.

Baby self-feeding pillow products are designed to be attached to a bottle so that the baby may be positioned on its back to self-feed

without the assistance of a caregiver holding the bottle and controlling the feed. This is inconsistent with [NHS guidance in relation to safe bottle feeding](#). When used as intended, even whilst under the supervision of a caregiver, it could lead to immediate, serious harm or death from choking or aspiration pneumonia.

More information can be found here:

- <https://capt.org.uk/urgent-safety-alert-issued-for-baby-self-feeding-pillows/>
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/urgent-safety-alert-issued-for-baby-self-feeding-pillows>

Blind cords safety:

At least 35 young children across the UK have died because of looped cords on blinds since 2001 - that's one or two children each year - and there will be many more near misses.

Here are some top tips for preventing accidents involving looped cords:

- Install blinds that do not have a looped cord, particularly in a child's bedroom
- Cords on blinds (and also curtains) that are elsewhere in the home should be kept short and out of reach of children - tie up the cords or use one of the many cleats, cord tidies, clips or ties that are available
- Do not place a child's cot, bed, playpen or highchair near a window
- Do not hang toys or objects that could be a hazard on a cot or bed
- Do not hang drawstring bags where a small child could get their head through the loop of the drawstring.

They do not recommend that cords are cut, even as a short-term solution, because they could actually become more dangerous - one cord could become a lot longer than the other, increasing the risk of entanglement, and cut cords could also become tangled, resulting in the formation of a new loop.

<https://www.rospa.com/campaigns-fundraising/current/blind-cord.aspx>

Burns and scalds:

Almost half of all serious burns are to children under two and 70% are to children under five.

It comes as a surprise just how easily a young child can badly burn themselves. But because their skin is thinner and more delicate than an adult's, a baby or toddler is at greater risk of serious burns.

Top tips to avoid burns and scalds at home:

- Look for safe zones in your house where you know your child can't reach your hot drink
- Put your straighteners in a heat-proof pouch or on a high shelf to cool
- When running a bath, put cold water in first and top up with hot
- Push your kettle to the back of the worktop and use the back rings of your cooker first

In an emergency - knowing what to do if your child suffers a burn can mean the difference between lifelong scarring and a child who heals well.

Remember: **COOL, CALL, COVER**

- **COOL** the burn for 20 minutes under cool running water.

- CALL for help
- COVER the burn loosely with cling film.

More information can be found here:

<https://capt.org.uk/burns-scalds>.

Drinks at bedtime:

When children have drinks at bedtime, it links into what is the best routine having these and the impact for their teeth. The recommendations suggest that bottles of milk can be used until a child is 12 months old. After this time children should be encouraged to consume milk in free flow or open topped cups.

Ideally, between 9-12 months children should slowly transition, so they are consuming milk awake, in a cup and then their teeth are brushed at least 30 mins later.