

Banbury School Day Nursery Newsletter

7th October 2022



DATES OF NURSERY CLOSURE IN 2022

We are closed:

16th December 2022 - Last day of term before Christmas, we will close at 5.30pm

Nursery will re-open Tuesday 3rd January 2023

****31st October 2022 - Dress up for Halloween****

As the weather is getting colder we are still trying to give the children opportunities to go outside, even if this is only for a small amount of time with their key worker. To allow for this **please bring your child to nursery with a coat appropriate for the weather.**

School applications: If your child is in our sun room and will be going to primary school in September 2023, applications open on November 1st. You can find advice, information and where to apply here:

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/schools/apply-school-place/reception-applications/key-dates>.

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/schools/apply-school-place/online-applications>.

Focus themes for the next two weeks

The moon room will be learning about Autumn for the next two weeks, the children will be having lots of sensory experiences by exploring leaves, acorns, conkers and pine cones. They will also be looking at the inside of different vegetables. We would appreciate and encourage you to look for conkers on autumn walks with the

family and bring some photos into nursery for us to look through together.

The sun room will be learning about Superheroes and focusing on what helpful and positive characteristics different superheroes have.

If your child has a superhero costume at home that they would like to wear into nursery one day please feel free to send them in wearing it, however please put clothes on them underneath it and write their name inside the costume in case they get too hot and want to take it off.

In the sun room we are really trying to focus on 'kind hands' and 'kind feet' and how helpful superheroes can be - for example rescuing and saving people, super quick tidying up and super kind playing and sharing with our friends (as opposed to hurting bad guys or fighting them). We would really appreciate it if similar language and ideas could be talked about at home so we can create a continuous environment for the children.

Packed lunches

We have recently had a lot of packed lunches containing grapes that are whole/not cut up or have been cut incorrectly. Unfortunately we are not able to let your child eat their grapes unless they have been cut lengthways. This is because it is unsafe, as grapes are one of the biggest causes of choking and death in under 5s.



Also please remember to include a spoon for your child's yoghurt if they have one in a pot (**if they are in the preschool**), the sun room staff **do not** have access to cutlery in their room. The star and moon room are happy to provide cutlery as they both have kitchen areas in their room but the sun room does not and they are not able to leave the room to go and get cutlery from another room.

Sun room new routine

In the sun room we are changing our daily routine, the children will have more time in their key groups to allow for quality interactions with their key worker and longer in each room to explore the toys.

There will be two key groups per room, this will change daily to allow children who are not in the same key group to have a chance to play with each other.

In the morning after breakfast both groups will have register, groups 1 and 4 will sit down for their register in the quiet room and groups 2 and 3 will have their register in the craft room, they will stay in this room from 8:30am-10am.

After register they have the opportunity to play in their base room, if they are in the craft room they will also go outside (weather permitting - even if it is cold we will still try to get them out for 30 minutes to get some fresh air). Also during this time in their base rooms, both rooms will do an adult focussed activity, this is something relevant to what they are learning about and covers a different area of learning (such as maths, communication and language or understanding the world). At 10am the groups have their morning snack, and then from 10:30am-12pm the children swap their base room.

From 11:30am, the children begin going to the toilet ready for lunch and sit in their groups to have a story which is relevant to what the children are learning about. As before the children will then eat their lunch and sit with their key groups and their key worker.

After lunch the children then go into their groups again, groups 2 and 3 will play in the quiet room, during this time they will do a letters and sounds activity to practice their phonics. Groups 1 and 4 will explore the craft room and garden, and will be given the opportunity for craft activities and malleable and messy play. This is from 1:00-2:00pm, and the groups then swap rooms and have time in the other room from 2:00-3:00pm.

At 3pm all the children come together for their snack, after this they have a story, signing time or instrument play whilst the snack is tidied away. After this they do 'table tops' and freeplay where they get different toys out of the activity cupboard (which the children get to pick), and they get to play with these from 4:00-5:00pm. At 5pm they sit down to have their final snack and have quiet time, where they can look at stories together or sing with song spoons.

The sun room have been following this routine for the past week and the children have enjoyed it and followed the changes well.

Library books/sets

If your child has borrowed books from the library, please remember to bring them back a week after your child has brought them home, this is to allow another child to have a turn and take a set home. Thank you very much to the parents who are exploring the sets with their child at home, we really enjoy seeing the photos and reading what books they liked.

Dogs on site

Another polite reminder to please not bring dogs/pets with you when collecting your child, this is both a request from the school and also nursery as not only may some children be fearful of dogs but there may also be someone with allergies for whom it would be unsafe for there to be a dog nearby. This is also a safety measure as whilst the dog may be well trained, unexpected circumstances may arise and cause an unsafe situation.

Please find below some helpful resources, they cover help for parents from baby to preschool, some guidance for tooth brushing and a flyer for a swimming school/lessons.

Parent resources from Oxfordshire County Council:

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/children-education-and-families/information-parents/baby-preschool>

This website has split guidance into age groups - 'my baby and me', 'baby to toddler' and 'toddler to preschool', as well as a link to the 50 Things to Do Before You're 5 app.

Tooth brushing

We have received some helpful resources from our Healthy Smiles training.

Please find below an app called 'Brush DJ' which may help with encouraging your child to brush their teeth for 2 minutes to music:



Brush DJ APP Community Dental Services

Brush DJ is an award-winning, free toothbrush timer app that plays 2 minutes of music taken from the user's device to encourage brushing for an effective length of time.

Two minute timer with your favourite songs!

Reminders to visit your dental professionals!

"It is very fun for my son"

"It really did help with my teeth"

Reminders to floss!

"Great app for teenagers!"

Evidence-based age specific information is given as per the Public Health England toolkit 'Delivering Better Oral Health'.

Visit the Brush DJ website for more information, educational videos and to download the app.
www.brushdj.com



Healthy start scheme:

The Healthy Start Scheme Are YOU eligible?

Community
Dental
Services

Have you got this card in your wallet? →



This new pre-paid, Healthy Start Voucher card, is replacing paper vouchers **NOW**. If you already get the vouchers you will be invited, by letter, to apply for this new card via an online application.

If you are new to these vouchers you will need to check your eligibility, before applying online:




Are you at least 10 weeks pregnant or caring for a child under 4? In addition you must also be receiving any of the following:

- ▶ Child Tax Credit (only if the family's annual income is £16,190 or less)
- ▶ Income Support
- ▶ Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- ▶ Pension Credit (which includes the child addition)
- ▶ Universal Credit (only if the family's take-home pay is £408 or less per month from employment)

If the answer is **YES** then you could be receiving:

- ▶ £4.25 each week of your pregnancy (from 10 weeks)
- ▶ £8.50 each week for children from birth to 1 year old
- ▶ £4.25 each week for children between 1 and 4 years old

Money will be added weekly to your card which you can then use to buy...

-  Fruit and vegetables – fresh, frozen, tinned
-  Plain cow's milk – fresh or long-life
-  Infant formula – stage one only



Apply online to the NHS Healthy Start scheme at:
www.healthystart.nhs.uk

So what are you waiting for?!

Watch our video with extra details on the scheme; <https://youtu.be/8EkFL-LWpE> and then check eligibility or apply online here...



NHS Stop Smoking:



Oxford Swimming Academy



Oxford Swim Academy has recently started offering swimming classes at Sibford School on Saturday afternoons, they still have lots of spaces available. They offer group and private lessons for ages 2 years old right through to Stage 7 equivalent. The venue has lovely warm water, parking on site and is a full 25m for those progressing distance and deeper water confidence.

More information can be found on their:

Facebook: **Oxford Swimming Academy**

Twitter: **@oxswimacademy**

Website: www.oxfordswimmingacademy.co.uk