



Cookham Nursery School Newsletter June 2019

Our Learning

We welcome back the children after the half term holiday and hope you all had a lovely break. For many children this will be their last half term with us. The children will be visiting their new schools for transition days and some teachers of local schools are visiting the children at Cookham Nursery if they are able.



Thank you to all the children for learning their 9 songs for the Sponsored Sing. They all sang so well with the added challenge of singing to an audience. Singing and playing music supports listening skills, helps brain development and language development. Children learn to discriminate between sounds - skills needed in phonics knowledge and reading. Music is part of all our lives and it's fun!

Thank you very much for all your sponsorship money for the singing. So far we have raised a total of £426.

We are so grateful for this money and along with the Father's Day shop, £150 will go towards our Water Play Project, a new initiative for the Outdoor Area.

Our woodwork bench is now fully up and running and is used daily by many children. Woodwork is active learning at its best. It has proved to be such a popular activity and it has become very clear that using wood as a creative material is developing children's imagination, creativity, problem solving and physical skills. There is a very deep level of learning when children are focussed and concentrating for sustained periods of time and woodwork is a brilliant area to promote this.



Staffing

As we approach the end of the academic year we are also saying goodbye to staff members as they move on to have new adventures. Mrs Woods and Miss Chapman are both leaving Cookham Nursery at the end of term. Mrs. Woods is going to spend some time with her family as her twin girls are growing up fast. We know she will keep in touch with us and pop in to say hello. Miss Chapman has completed her first year of being a qualified teacher with us and is going to share her early years expertise with a school in Bucks. We will miss them both very much.

Mrs Booth will also take her autumn term sabbatical to spend time with her family but as in previous years will return in January 2020 with the new intake of children.

We are excited to share that Miss O' Regan is moving from The Lawns Nursery School in Windsor to Cookham Nursery in September. Miss O' Regan is an experienced Early Years Practitioner and has worked at The Lawns for over 10 years. We are looking forward to her joining the team. Miss O' Regan will come over during the last few weeks of term to spend time with the children.

We are recruiting for a part time member of staff and interviews are currently taking place.

Key persons in September are:

Green Group - Mrs Hirst and Mrs Cowie

Yellow Group - Mrs Hayford

Purple Group - Miss O Regan.

Mrs Turner and Mrs Greenwood will support all the children in all groups.

Beale Park



Our annual Beale Park trip is on Friday 12th July. Letters have already gone out regarding booking this trip. Places on the coach are still available, so please speak to Jane/ Cathy in the office if you need a space but haven't booked one yet.

If parents/ carers are unable to attend the trip but would like their child to come along then please speak to Jane/ Cathy in the office as the staff team are able to accommodate a **limited** number of unaccompanied children.

Please be aware that Cookham Nursery School is closed all day on this day.

Children's progress meetings

Children leaving in July will all receive a progress report from their key person. These will be handed out during the week of the 8th July. If parents/ carers would like an appointment to discuss the report then appointments can be made with your child's key person.

Some children will be staying with us for another year and will not receive a leavers report so in order for you to discuss your child's progress we have arranged parent chats for the week beginning 8th July for all key person groups.

A list of appointment times will be available in the corridor at the beginning of July for parents/ carers to sign up for a convenient appointment. Please do let us know if you need an alternative appointment time.

Starting School

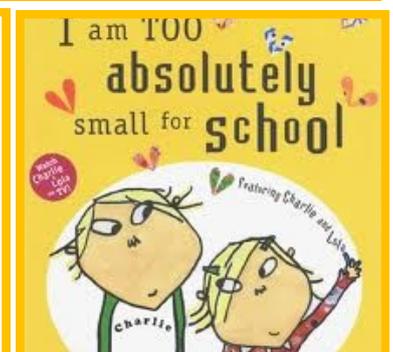


Moving onto Big School will be an exciting and sometimes worrying time for children. 'Five to Thrive' is a helpful way of supporting your child's well being at any time in their journey through the early years. Some of the staff had training on the Five to Thrive approach a couple of years ago and we have found it a useful way to support children's emotional well being and resilience. These are the daily "Five to Thrive" points—

1. Respond "I feel scared if I get no response from you. When you look at me with kindness I feel safe. Being close to you helps me to feel safe."
2. Cuddle "When I am close to you connections are building in my brain. This will help me to start to control my own emotions as I grow."
3. Relax "If you can find ways to relax when you are with me, you can make a big difference to the way my brain works and it helps me to relax too."
4. Play. "I need you to make life interesting for me. Toys are great but the best toy in the world is you!"
5. Talk "I love it when you take notice of what I am communicating to you. It helps me feel that I am a real person who matters."

Book Recommendation

A great book for those children who are moving onto school in September. Starting school is a big milestone in any child's life – not to mention a parent/ carer's too! Sharing engaging stories and picture books about starting school is a great way to gently prepare your child for their first day. This amusing story in the Charlie and Lola series explores Lola's reluctance to go to school and her older brother Charlie's attempts to counter all her reasons for not going. Children who are just about to start school will be able to relate to Lola and Charlie and enjoy talking about Lola's feelings.



Green Redeem

Our place on to the RBWM Greenredeem Donations Scheme ends in two weeks time so this is our last chance to plead for points! The more points donated, the more funding we will receive out of the £3,000 pot. Any last minute points that you or friends and family may have in the borough can be donated at www.greenredeem.co.uk/rbwm. Thank you very much in advance. We look forward to sharing how much money we received.

Sun Safety

*Please can we remind parents/ carers to apply sun cream to children prior to their nursery session. The children staying all day can bring in sun cream to be applied if necessary. Sun cream must be named and should be handed directly to your child's key person and not left in their bag.



*Please also ensure that your child has a named sun hat and is wearing appropriate and safe footwear for the nursery garden. Thank you.

Please remember ...

- * To park with consideration for our neighbours and other road users at drop off and collection time.
- * To take your child's learning journey home at the end of term. For children who are leaving it is a lovely keepsake recording their time at Nursery. For the children who are returning please add photos etc. over the summer so we can talk to your child about their experiences when they return in September.
- * To call and let us know if your child is not going to be at Nursery for their session. It takes us a considerable amount of office time each day to call absent families.

Dates for your Diaries

Wednesday 3rd July - Group Photos today for all children. Children will have their photos taken with their key group.

Monday 8th July - Nursery reports to be issued to children who are moving onto school in September.

Monday 8th July - Progress chats this week for children staying at Nursery. Please sign up for an appointment.

Friday 12th July - Beale Park trip today. **Nursery is closed today.**

Friday 19th July - Last day of term. Nursery closes at 3.30pm.

WEDNESDAY 11th SEPTEMBER - Current children return to Nursery (following inset, home visit and new entrants days).

