We wanted to write a newsletter to welcome back some of our children as Maidenhead Nursery School begins to open its’ doors again and also to keep in touch with those children and families at home too.

We hope you are all keeping safe, well and have enjoyed the fabulous weather. It has been lovely to have children back in our Nursery environment after such a long time. The ‘bubbles’ are working well and the children have amazed us with their resilience and adaptability during this phased return.

During the lockdown period the staff have been busy with training, writing reports for the children leaving us and sorting our indoor and outdoor environment and resources. The reports for the children leaving Nursery will be arriving via email very soon. Please do look out for them as there is a parent feedback sheet attached.

We hope you have been enjoying the home learning ideas sent home via email over the past 12 weeks and thank you for sending in comments, photos and videos too. We will continue emailing out ways that you can support your child’s learning at home until the end of term.

We are mindful that for many children this is their last half term at Nursery and we are working with Primary and Infant schools to begin some transition work. This will look different from previous years however we are looking at creative solutions to ensure all the information about the children is passed to their next school. We are planning to contact all schools to offer a chat about the children and some schools have already been in touch with some ideas too. If you have not informed us of which school your child is attending then please can you email the school office. Thank you.

Just a reminder that Maidenhead Nursery School closes for the summer break at 11.45 am on Tuesday 21st July.
Government guidelines advise that children are educated in ‘social bubbles’ and that adults should social distance from each other. For these reasons we can only currently have small numbers of children in opposing sessions taught by allocated staff teams. Recently interest in spaces has increased and demand is outstripping what we are able to safely provide. We appreciate that as the level of coronavirus infection is reported to be reducing that there will be a further increase in children wishing to return. This puts us in a challenging position and we will be reviewing our provision in light of this alongside any further government advice on a 3 weekly basis. If you do want your child to return to Nursery we are now adding names to a waiting list. We ask for your patience and understanding during these unprecedented times. Please ensure that you check your emails regularly (including your junk or spam) and respond to emails by deadlines given as this greatly helps with planning.

Our focus

For those children returning to Nursery our aims are:
• To rebuild trusting and respectful relationships.
• To re-establish social interactions with adults and their peers.
• To follow the new Nursery routines and structure to keep themselves safe.
• To further develop co-regulation and self-regulation skills.
• To be ready to engage in playful learning.
• To enjoy being creative using a variety of media.
• To be physically active.

If your child has returned to Nursery….

• Thank you for being patient with us whilst we get up and running with new systems.
• Please remember to apply sun cream prior to their session and ensure that your child has their hat with them on sunny days and their coat or similar on cooler days.
• Please ensure that long hair is tied up.
• Please remember to call/ email in if your child is not attending Nursery that day.
• Please do not send your child if they are unwell at all - this includes colds, coughs, temperatures and any non coronavirus symptoms.
• Please remember a lunch box containing a healthy snack and drink.
**Book recommendation of the month**

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/carers 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.

**Speech technique of the Month**

**Use a range of positional language**

Make sure your child has ‘in’, ‘on’ and ‘under’ established before working on other prepositions.

Play ‘hide and seek’ with toys and objects, e.g. “the bear is in the box/behind the box”, etc.

Make it active – “You are jumping over the leaves”, “You are going down the slide!”

**September places**

We are mindful that parents/carers might be waiting for information regarding September 2020 and session offers. Please do bear with us as we transition the children back for the phased reopening over the next few weeks. We will need to consider government guidance when it is issued on the next academic year. We will then be able to discuss and plan for our children to return to Maidenhead Nursery School in September and make those transitions as smooth as possible. We have also had quite a few parents approach us on deferring their Reception place. You are able to defer your child’s Reception place to the term after they turn 5 years old. If you wish to consider deferring for a term or more please speak to a member of staff as soon as possible.