



## *We hope all is well...*

We wanted to check in again before the end of this month to see if our Cookham Nursery community were all okay. The easing of lockdown means that we are starting to see families and children out and about in the village. We are also enjoying having children return to Nursery in their 'bubbles'. Some more children will be starting this week and we hope that they settle back into the routines. Our bubbles are now full and we are unable to accept any more children back to Nursery this side of the Summer break. If Government guidance changes we will of course look again to see what we are able to do to accommodate more children.

We are closing our current 'bubbles' on Friday 17th July and so this will be the end of term for those children currently attending Nursery. We are planning to open on Monday 20th and Tuesday 21st July and have some pre-booked appointments for those children who are leaving Cookham Nursery School and have not returned. This will be an opportunity to come and see your child's key person, collect their learning journeys and say goodbye. We felt it was important for those children and their families to be able to have some closure prior to moving on to their new schools. Your child's key person will be calling at the beginning of July to book in a time to come into Nursery over those 2 days.

## *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. Hayford is leaving Cookham Nursery School at the end of term as she is moving and relocating to Yorkshire. Due to lockdown and the restrictions placed on moving house, Mrs. Hayford has taken a temporary teaching position at a school in Bucks. Mrs. Hayford will be greatly missed by all of us as she is a much loved member of staff. Moving to Yorkshire has been a long term plan of hers and we are pleased that she is able to fulfil this dream. We wish her lots of love and happiness.

Miss Young is joining Cookham Nursery School in September as key person for Yellow group. Miss Young trained as a teacher at The Lawns Nursery School before moving to The Royal First School in Windsor. Miss Young is passionate about early years and some children may remember her from when she came to set up the woodwork area at Nursery.

Mrs. Sadler will be joining us from Eton Wick First School to complete her teacher training.

Key persons in September are:

Green Group - Mrs Hirst ( this will be the 30 hour group)

Yellow Group - Miss Young

Purple Group - Miss O Regan

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

## *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."

## *Dates for your Diaries*

Friday 17th July - End of term for those children attending in 'bubbles'.

Monday 20th July and Tuesday 21st July - Children who have not returned to Nursery will be invited to come and say hello/ goodbye to their key person on these days. Your child's key person will call to book in an appointment for these days.

Tuesday 21st July at 11.45am - Nursery Closes for the Summer holidays.

Tuesday 1st September and Wednesday 2nd September—INSET days. Staff are renewing their First Aid during these days.

Thursday 3rd September - Monday 7th September - Nursery Closed for alternative home visits.

Tuesday 8th September - New Entrants only today.

Wednesday 9th September - Nursery opens for old children - we will stagger the entry dates for new children starting Cookham Nursery School to support transition.

## *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.

