



Maidenhead Nursery School

December 2021 Newsletter

The Children's Learning

It's hard to believe that we are rapidly approaching the Christmas break - this term has flown by. Thank you so much for all your support during these unprecedented times - please keep an eye on the news and your emails over the Christmas break in case we need to re-introduce further COVID-19 measures in January 2022.

As I am writing this newsletter some children and parents are at Norden Farm Arts Centre watching Kipper's Snowy Night. We hope that you enjoyed the performance as it's one of our favourite Christmas stories.



The children have been using their woodwork skills to create personalised decorations to take home. They were full of joy as they planned their own designs, chose embellishments to add and worked out whether to use glue or nails to attach them.

We have been sharing, retelling and exploring The Gingerbread Man and this has created many fun learning opportunities. Look at this fantastic playdough gingerbread person we made using scented dough.



The snow day was a lovely, unexpected day of fun for us as we used sticks to make marks in the snow, rolled snowballs and made trails of footprints.



The children noticed ice around the garden and made some fascinating observations about the bubbles and leaves hidden inside the ice as well as the changes that happened as it melted back into a liquid.

We are looking forward to our Christmas parties. We understand that some of our families don't celebrate Christmas as Maidenhead Nursery School is very lucky to have a diverse community. We teach children to respect the views and opinions of others and focus on Christmas as a story about the birth of baby Jesus.



**Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year
from all at Maidenhead Nursery School!**





Christmas Events



Singing around the Christmas tree

The children have enthusiastically been learning our favourite Christmas songs and we hope that you will be able to join us on Wednesday 8th December. We will be singing outdoors so please wrap up warm! Due to recent LA guidance we will be doing it in two smaller groups—one in the back and one in the front garden.

Morning session - 11.15am and Afternoon session - 3pm

Children's Christmas parties

Afternoon Party - Thursday 16th December 12– 2.30pm (Nursery closed in the morning).

Morning Party - Friday 17th December 9.15 - 11.45 am (Nursery closed in the afternoon).

Children who attend 30 and 2.5 days should have been allocated a party please ask a member of staff if you are unsure.

Food arrangements: Please provide your child with a covered, paper plate that is named. This is going to be their food for the party and it can contain any treats that they wish (except those containing nuts). This will be the food for them and if not eaten will be thrown away or given to the chickens so please do not provide too much.



Speech Technique of the Month

Have conversations

Making comments instead of asking questions will encourage your child to respond - 4 comments to every question.

Pause between sentences to give your child time to process information. Give them 10 seconds at least to respond.

Young children find it easier to talk about something they are looking at or doing.





Dates for Your Diary



Wednesday 8th December - Singing around the Christmas tree (11.15am or 3pm).

Wednesday 15th December - **Last full day of Nursey.** Santa's grotto is visiting.

Thursday 16th December - **Nursery closed in the morning** - Children's Christmas Party 12.00 - 2.30 pm.

Friday 17th December - Children's Christmas Party 9.15am - 11.45am. **Nursery closes in the afternoon for the Christmas holidays.**

Tuesday 4th - Friday 7th January 2022 - INSET day; Settling in new children with Nursery visits and new entrants session. **NURSERY CLOSED.**

Monday 10th January - Children return to Nursery.

Saturday 15th January - Deadline for Primary/Infant School applications for September 2022.

Friday 18th February - Break up for half term break

Monday 28th February - **INSET day - NURSERY CLOSED**

Tuesday 1st March - All children return after the half term break.

Friday 8th April - Last day of spring term before Easter holidays.



School Applications

Online admissions is now open for children eligible to start school next September 2021.

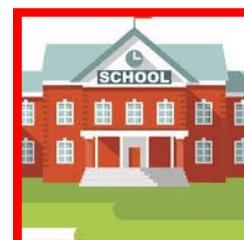
Closing date - Saturday 15th January 2022

National Offer Day - Tuesday 19th April 2022

<https://www.rbwm.gov.uk/home/schools-and-education/school-admissions/starting-school-or-moving-junior-school-september-2022>

Our advice at this time is to look around at the schools websites and make contact with the schools to see if they are doing any face to face or tours or virtual meetings as this will give you a feel for the school that will 'fit' your child best. In order to have more chance of getting the school at the top of your list make sure that you do not miss the application deadline.

It is also important that parents/ carers complete all the choices when completing the form as this has an impact whether you are able to join a waiting list should you not be given your preferred choice.



BAD WEATHER CLOSURES



Please be advised that we always endeavour to open Maidenhead Nursery School however if the weather is extreme and staff are unable to get to school or the school site is considered slippery and unsafe we may need to close for health and safety reasons. In the event of bad weather parents should check the RBWM website - www.rbwm.gov.uk, our website - nurseryfederation.co.uk, Nursery Instagram page and/or listen to Heart Thames Valley or BBC Radio Berkshire for school closure announcements.

Thank you!

- ◆ **Thank you** to all of you who have paid the voluntary school fund contribution through the school money system. This helps to pay for Christmas presents for the children, food for our pets and additional resources. If you haven't had chance to make the payment we would be most grateful if could do so in the New Year.
- ◆ **Thank you** for bringing in items for the Bags 2 School collection we raised £64.20
- ◆ **Thank you** for you donations to Children in Need. Our spotty day raised £55 for the charity.

INTERNET SAFETY

We hope those parents who joined the Internet Safety talk for parents on Wednesday 24th November found it useful.

The session was recorded on Zoom so if you missed it please follow this YOU Tube link:

<https://youtu.be/Zs8wlaoQjno>

Please also have a look at Paul Hay's website: www.pclstraining.com/links

You can also email Paul with any questions: paul.hay@pclstraining.com

A couple of reminders!

- ◆ If your child is unwell please don't bring them into Nursery. Colds and stomach bugs have circulated quickly and have affected the staff team considerably - everyone's immunity is low after reduced mixing over the past 18 months. Please remember to call and let us know why your child is absent on the first day. Any child suffering from a stomach bug should not come into Nursery for 48 hours from their last symptom.
- ◆ Please remember to park considerately, keeping pavements and drive ways clear. We don't like to upsetting our neighbours.

