

Summer Term Newsletter 2020

Betty Lewis Nursery School Ltd



We hope this newsletter finds you all well and staying safe at home. We are still open for key worker children now, and over the Easter Break and really hope that we can welcome everyone back in the not too distant future. We hope you are all looking forward to the Easter Break! We already had so much planned for an exciting Summer Term at Betty Lewis!

We are sending this newsletter to keep you up to date, and let you know what usually happens during this term. We endeavour to pick up wherever we can, if and when the pre-school re-opens during the Summer term.

We are posting a list of fun activities for children to do at home, to our Website at the end of the week (by 3rd April). Staff have come up with some brilliant ideas and some of the activities are what we would be planning for the children over the coming months.

Please note that the nursery has been deep cleaned - every single toy, every single book, and every piece of resource has been sanitised, so you can be confident that the environment will be clean and hygienic. It has been a mammoth task – but the place has a certain sparkle about it!

We are planning to work in the garden over the Easter Break to update resources and equipment ready (hopefully) for the children to enjoy in the Summer months. We will work responsibly ensuring we adopt the social distancing rules, as we have been over the last few weeks.

We would love the children to decorate a tin can with paint and any other embellishments over the Easter break, so they can be hung in the trees to brighten up the garden, replacing the ones completed by pre-school children last year. We will then vanish them to protect them outside, it will hopefully be a nice activity to complete with your children over the Easter break!

Term Dates

A reminder of Summer terms date for your diaries:

Term 5: Thursday 16th April to Friday 22nd May

Bank Holiday: Friday 8th May

Term 6: Monday 1st June to Monday 20th July

Uniform

Our children's uniform has been a very successful introduction this year. Order forms are available on our website www.bettylewisnursery.co.uk

It is unlikely that our next order will be placed before July to be ready for September.

Children's Development

We would normally be summarising your child's development again in June by completing the 'My Unique Transition' forms, ready for their transition to either the pre-school room, or primary school. At this stage we are unclear on what assessment tools we will use in the event the children do not return before that date. We would hope to arrange key worker meetings to discuss your child's transition. In the event these cannot take place, we will send the new primary school a written summary of each child and will send a copy to you also.

Key Group Plans

Ladybird Group

This term we will be looking at Seasons, talking about Summer and growing some sunflowers. We will be focussing on transition to the pre-school room in preparation for September, spending some time with the Caterpillar and Dragonfly teachers, becoming more independent in self-care, and putting coats and shoes on ourselves.



Caterpillar and Dragonfly Group

Next terms topic will be science, followed by lifecycles/minibeasts. Any items / books related to our topic can be bought into school and will be shown during show and tell. Phonics and number activities will be covered each day, and we will be continuing to talk about our feelings, respecting each other, good manners and sharing. We will be focussing a lot on transition in the second half of the term. Reception teachers from the local primary schools will be coming out to visit the children and see them in the pre-school environment prior to children starting transition events at their primary school.



Please can all parents confirm their Primary school offer so we can work with reception school teachers on transition sessions at the setting.

We will be starting PE sessions in Term 6, so children will need a drawstring style bag with shorts / t-shirt and plimsoles / trainers so we can practice getting changed. Please ensure ALL items are labelled!

Please can parents also inform us of booked holiday dates during the summer term so we can make sure parents / children do not miss any important events!

Things to note.....

- Invoices need to be paid in advance of the new term, as detailed in our fees and pricing policy. We are spending increasing amounts of time chasing up late payments. We will consider applying late payment fees to those invoices that continue to be outstanding. Thank you to those parents who continue to pay on time each term.
- ***Please can all children bring in a water bottle daily. These needs to be NAMED with a screwable lid so it can be re-filled during the day***
- Please can all outdoor clothes be CLEARLY NAMED, including shoes!
- ***Sun cream needs to be applied BEFORE the children start pre-school. We can re-apply before the start of the afternoon session, or if it is exceptionally hot, but as you can imagine, doing this for 40 children is very time consuming! Please ensure bottles / tubes are named***
- Please remember to pack a sun hat for your child every day. The great British Summer can take us by surprise on some days!
- ***Please can you ensure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather. Children may needs a light jacket / cardigan / hoodie, even if the forecast is for warm weather. We access the outdoors from 9.30am and it can be chilly at the start of the session***
- Please could we ask that every child has a named pair of wellies for outdoor play, and that these are left at school so they are always available for poor weather conditions
- ***Important Safety Information***
Please note that the climbing frame must not be accessed by children without adult supervision. We therefore ask that children do not use it outside of nursery hours i.e. at pick up and drop off times. The climbing frame must NOT be used by any child under the age of 3. We operate a strict adult: child ratio of 1:4 when children are climbing during nursery hours.

- Staff Training Update: Staff have accessed a wide range of training – some statutory and some for personal development: Physical development, Best practice Guidance, Designated safeguarding, and 1 member of staff has renewed their 12 hour paediatric first aid qualification. Some staff have also undergone tracheostomy training to support a child that joins us in April with a complex medical condition.
- ***Please continue to park responsibly taking care not to block cars in the car park. Please consider parking in the high street, surrounding roads or behind Tesco's and make the short walk to nursery. It is essential that our parents DO NOT access the car park before 9am as it makes it impossible for West Malling School parents to leave the car park. Thank you for your co-operation with this matter***
- As ever, please do not hesitate to come and see us if you have any queries or questions!

Thank you for all your on-going support

Michelle, Julie and all of the Betty Lewis Staff Team



Key Dates for Summer Term:

- **June**
Parent Questionnaire – your feedback and comments are important to us in improving our provision and we care what you think! We will be sending this out in Term 6.
- **Monday 20th July**
Last day of term. Pre-school finishes at 12.15pm for Ladybirds
Leavers party for all Caterpillars and Dragonflies and parents / carers - more details to follow!