



Newsletter

May 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

We wish you all a lovely and restful break in readiness for the fun and activities planned for the remaining part of our Summer Term.

Second Half Term Themes

Website

Please link into our website (shown below) to pick up information in respect of our curriculum planning:-

<http://www.kinsbournecommonnursery.com/#!/the-curriculum/n7mfh>

By double-clicking on the following links in this section, you will be able to access information as follows:

[Long Term Planning \(includes our Themes/Activities and Term Dates\) – 2017-2018](#)

[St Mary's Medium Term Planning \(includes our current weekly provision linking up to respective themes\)](#)

[Kinergy Medium Term Planning \(includes our current weekly provision linking up to respective themes\)](#)

We have a range of information available across different sections of the Website such as term dates, other planning documentation and links to other settings. We have also downloaded an audio copy of our Nursery Story, 'The Six Special Friends' for you to share with your children if you wish! In addition, the animation for the story has now been completed and is available to play in conjunction with the narrator.

Regular updates/forthcoming events will be available to look at by linking into the 'News' page on the website and we would be grateful if you could take a moment to view this whenever possible. Deborah has also now set up a link to the TV screen at St Mary's Church Hall showing our website. When you arrive each morning, the weekly planning will be displayed. However, a hard copy will also be available should there be any technical issues. Obviously accessing our website in the normal way before arriving at nursery gives the advantage of knowing what is being planned ahead of time, but this is just an alternative way of sharing information should you not get chance to do this. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to speak to Deborah.

Please do not forget our colour coded 'show and tell' boxes so that your children can safely store whatever they choose to bring into Nursery. We encourage all parents/children to get involved with this by bringing in something from home that corresponds with either the colour or theme of the week. This acts as a great link between Home and Nursery and the children really enjoy talking about their items during Circle Time. **Could we please ask if only ONE item can be brought in by each child, thank you.**

Half Term Homework

Please take a moment to gather some news or something that your child may have achieved over half term. It is always good to hear what the children have been up to and in many cases helps us with our planning.

Parents/Carers Feedback

We would be really grateful if you could spare some time to e-mail Anna with your experiences of your child/children attending our nursery so that they may be posted onto our website for future reference.

Nursery Contact Number

The Nursery Phone Number is: 07956 463128

Just so that new parents/carers are aware, in order to comply with Ofsted Regulations, we originally purchased a phone with no picture facilities for use. Unfortunately, we found that the phone rarely had RECEPTION and thus posed a serious safeguarding issue. In order to alleviate this problem, we have reverted back to a mobile phone which is more reliable. Please make a note of this number should you wish to contact the NURSERY: **The number will also be DISPLAYED on the Blue Nursery Door.**

If for any reason you are unable to contact the nursery, please Call Anna on 07956 659790 as back-up.

Ofsted Inspection – 8 March 2018

Please see attached link to our updated Ofsted report which was amended following our complaint:-

<https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/inspection-reports/find-inspection-report/provider/CARE/EY452312>

Although this has not altered our grading, it does give a more accurate description of the day to day running of the Nursery.

Nursery books

We will be leaving a box of books on a 'help yourselves' basis to take home at the end of the nursery session for parents to borrow should they wish. Please return the book when it is finished.

Outside play

Now that we have the Astro Turf in place, we are making full use of outdoor play come rain or shine! Many nurseries today offer free flow; this allows children to independently choose to move between the different environments. For some settings free flow can pose challenges as they may be based upstairs and have to find ways of accessing the outdoors, whereas settings based on one level (like us) have more opportunities of incorporating outdoors in their free flow. Free flow offers children many learning and development opportunities and it enables practitioners to fully embrace the use of the whole environment. With this in mind, The Kinsbourne Common Nursery and Pre-School will be adopting this approach at certain times during the academic year, particularly during periods of dry and warmer weather conditions.

Please ensure that your child has suitably named outdoor clothing. When the weather starts to become significantly warmer, please provide a sun hat (sun cream to be applied at home before nursery – we advise using an all-day sun protector).

Forest School Coming Soon!

Forest School was first introduced in the 1950s' in Scandinavia with people who had close cultural connections with the woodlands. Forest School is an outdoor education delivery model in which children (or adults) visit natural spaces to learn personal, social and technical skills. It has been defined as an inspirational process that offers children, young people and adults regular opportunities to achieve and develop confidence through hands-on learning in a woodland environment. Forest School is both a pedagogy and a physical entity, with the use often being interchanged.

The Nursery is very fortunate to have access to such a variety of different outdoor learning opportunities with the beautiful woodland and common land right on its doorstep. As a result, Deborah Campbell is awaiting dates for Forest School training which will be incorporated at Nursery as soon as possible.

Woodside Animal Farm

Please note that all parents/carers are invited with their children to attend Woodside Animal Farm on Friday, 13 July 2018. Please let Anna know if you and your child will be attending so that we can confirm numbers with Woodside Animal Farm. The cost of this trip for both child and parent will be paid from the usual nursery session's fee. Therefore, if your child does not attend on a Friday morning and you would like to attend, the charge will be £24.

There will be no nursery session at St Mary's Church Hall on Friday, 13 July 2018 as a result of this visit.

The morning will start at 9.30am (parents to arrive with their children at 9.15am for registration). Snacks will be provided for the children (as per a normal nursery session). **If you are not staying with your child, could you let us know so that we can ensure that sufficient staff are on duty.** The morning visit will end at 12 noon and nursery staff will be leaving at this time. However, the ticket for the farm includes an all day visit should you wish to stay longer with your child. If any child is attending without a parent/carer, they will need to be collected at 12 noon at the entrance of the farm.

Nursery Photographer

ABC Photography will be visiting the Nursery to take pictures of the children on Tuesday, 3 July 2018. If your child does not attend a TUESDAY session and you would like your child to have their photograph taken, please speak to Anna who will be co-ordinating and arranging this on both days. Alternatively, if you do not wish to have your child's photograph taken, please let Anna know.

The ABC package consists of three different poses of each child and the pricing is as follows:

Three different poses are taken of each child and then a set of **1 9x6, 2 6x4 & 4 3x2** photographs are produced for each pose.

3 @ 9x6, 6 @ 6x4 & 12 @ 3x2 photographs for just £40.

2 @ 9x6, 4 @ 6x4 & 8 @ 3x2 photographs for £35.

1 @ 9x6, 2 @ 6x4 & 4 @ 3x2 photographs for £25.

1 @ 9x6 or 2 @ 6x4 photographs for £15.

Summer Holiday Club – Monday 23 July 2018

The Summer Holiday Club will run from **9.15am- 1pm**. A buffet lunch will be provided for the children of, for example, a selection of sandwiches, mini sausages, sausage rolls, pasta,

vegetables followed by yogurt, fruit and a summer treat. The charge for each session will be **£28.00** per child. Unfortunately, the charge applies to all children as funding is not in place for the extra days.

Please let Anna know if you would like to book your child in for the Holiday Club.

Siblings are also welcome to attend up to the age of 5 years old. (Please discuss this with Anna/Deb if you are interested.)

Additional Sessions

For those who may be interested in taking up additional sessions, please let us know as soon as possible as spaces do tend to go very quickly.

Tuesday Full Day & Thursday Full day Opening

Please e-mail Anna should you wish to put your child's name down for a full day.

Snack & Toy Contribution

We would like to thank all parents who made a donation towards the snacks as well as the purchase of toys for the children (January-March 2018). This really is very much appreciated.

This term (April-July 2018), we would be really grateful if a further Snack and Toy Contribution could go towards a wooden storage bunker for our outdoor area. A donation form is attached for all parents who wish to contribute £30 for this term.

Many thanks in advance.

The Kinsbourne Common Fete – 12 May 2018

The Kinsbourne Common Fete made a total of £2,900 profit!

Thank you to all those who supported this event.

Makaton – Language Programme

The nursery staff continue to show the children basic Makaton signs throughout the sessions e.g. at snack and singing sessions. Makaton is a language programme using signs and symbols to help people communicate. We use basic Makaton signs as part of our inclusive practice and wanted to make you aware of this as the children may use the signs they have learnt in nursery at home.

Speech and Language 'Drop-in Clinics'

For those of you who may not be aware, the system for referring children for speech and language therapy has changed and there are now a series of drop-in clinics for parents/carers who may have concerns. Should you have any concerns, please contact Deb for further information.

WellComm Toolkit

Deborah Campbell has attended a workshop in respect of the WellComm Toolkit which is a speech and language aid for initial screening and intervention in the early years.

Recognising its value, Deborah and Anna have taken the decision to purchase the kit (costing £384). All staff members have received training on how to use this kit.

Staff Training Update

Safeguarding training has been carried out by the nursery team and will be updated when appropriate.

We are also pleased to confirm that all staff members have a current paediatric First Aid qualification.

Michelle Roberts continues to carry out her Diploma for Early Years Workforce (Early Years Educator) CACHE Level 3 (QCF) training. The Nursery will continue to support her throughout this process.

All staff members have completed Food Hygiene and Health and Safety Training.

30 hours' free childcare

Please check your eligibility for the 30 hrs provision and let Anna know ASAP if you qualify. You can find all the information and useful link on our website.

<http://www.hertsdirect.org/services/edlearn/css/parents/>

Fire Drills

We will continue to undertake Fire Drills on a termly basis with the children (both at St Mary's Church Hall and the Scout Hall). We will notify you when this is to be carried out with the children. In addition, we will discuss this with the children the previous week so that they have an idea what to expect. It takes little time to do but ensures we are prepared in case of a real fire!

Policies & Procedures

All policies are now available on our website and we will let you know as soon as the updates have been completed. The Policies and Procedures Folder is at Nursery on a daily basis. Please contact either Deborah or Anna should you have any queries.

Complaints procedure

Your child's key worker should be your first point of contact regarding any concerns you may have about your child. However, Deborah or Anna will be available to speak to should you wish.

Inset Days

There are a total of three nursery inset days which have been scheduled throughout the year. Please note that we have tried to keep these to a minimum but are obliged under government regulations to ensure staff have sufficient time to participate in planning meetings and thus comply with the expectations of The Revised Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (DfE, 2017).

Term dates are listed below:

Summer Term 2018	
Inset day	Monday, 16 April 2018
Term begins	Tuesday, 17 April 2018
Term ends	Friday, 20 July 2018
May Bank Holiday	Monday, 7 May 2018
Half term	Monday, 28 May to Friday, 1 June 2018
Summer Holiday Club	Monday, 23 July 2018

NB: Deborah will be completing the 2018/2019 Term Dates/Curriculum Planning as soon as possible which will be uploaded onto the Nursery Website.

POLITE NOTICE

Child Collection

If your child is to be picked up by someone else, please inform us and where possible sign the 'Child Collection Book' to say that this is going to be the case. We also ask that you provide the relevant password to the person who will be collecting in your absence (put on your Registration Form before starting at our setting). Please remember to do this as we will not release a child without this information but will nonetheless make every effort to make contact with you to clarify the situation. The safety of our children has to be considered by the setting at all times. Once we are familiar with those collecting your child on a regular basis, there will be no need to ask for this information. However, please bear in mind that some staff will not always know the person collecting the child when other staff may do and your co-operation to provide the appropriate password would be appreciated when this is the case.

Toileting

Please ensure that when children are dropped off at the nursery, they have been appropriately toileted i.e. a visit to the toilet if toilet trained or a clean, dry nappy if still in nappies. This will allow the staff to concentrate on the care of children who may need adult support at this time, instead of staff immediately having to change children who have been left with soiled nappies or needing the toilet.

Thank you for your assistance with this matter.

Food

Please do not put food in your child's bags as nursery staff are conscious that there may well be allergic reactions for other children who come into contact with such products. Likewise medication that may need to be taken by your child during a nursery session should be given to a practitioner so it can be left in a safe place (our kitchen cupboard) and out of reach of little hands.

Please also remember to include a complete change of clothing as there are a number of activities that are inevitably likely to be messy, all clothes to be named where possible.

Please also note that no EGGS or NUT products are allowed in children's lunch boxes. Many thanks.

Final Note

Thank you for reading this newsletter and apologies to parents/carers who may have already received some of this information. The duplicate information is for parents/carers and children who are new to nursery.

Best Wishes

Deborah Campbell BA Early Years (Open), Anna Gay (Msc Social Work Practitioner, Bsc (Hons) Social Care)

§ the Nursery Team

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