



Dear Parents and Carers

** September 2021 Nursery Update **

Welcome back to our term time only children and welcome to our new families who have just joined us or are joining us this month. We are certain your little ones will settle in rapidly and will enjoy exploring and discovering and the exciting toys and activities the Friendly Fish has.

As most of you are aware we have had our run of bad luck with Covid over the last couple of months and are all keeping fingers crossed we are now at the end. Sadly, Covid is not going away any time soon, so we are asking parents to please not send your child in if they are in any way poorly. Please remember that we do not like having to phone parents/carers especially if we have to call you out of work to send children home and especially if it is with a temperature and we need to ask they have a PCR test done, but we must do so to adhere to current guidelines and keep everyone safe.

A little reminder from all our lovely ladies:

Please dress your child in appropriate clothing for the weather. Even if it is sunny in the morning it could be raining in the afternoon so, please make sure your child has what they need with them for the day.

Can we please remind parents to name **Everything!** Children can take a liking to other's belongings and if they are not named, we have no idea if they belong to them or not. As you can imagine we cannot always keep track of what children arrive with what when we say good morning or afternoon to around 60 children! As you can imagine while we are trying to run around the building at the end of session or the day, it can be an impossible task to locate hats, hoodies, jumpers ect. Though the children all have a peg with their name and a picture sometimes items are placed on different pegs. The task of finding them is made easier if belongings are named then we can match the correct item to the correct child.

As you probably will have seen we have changed over to our Autumn/Winter menu from today. The new menus are up by the front door so you can see what your little one will be having on which day. Of course, as we always do, the menus are tweaked for the children who have dietary requirements, but we try to stick as close to the same thing as we can. 😊 Please also just be ware that we are struggling to get the ingredients for our exact menus through our Tesco deliveries, so if there is a small change, please do bear with us.

. Please remember the following at all times for when the weather is nice:

****Closed Toed shoes****

****Please always wear socks****

****Please apply sun cream every morning – regardless of the morning weather****

And for when the weather is not so nice:

Named wellies and either rain proof coats or puddle suits as we will access the garden in all weathers.

Parking: Thank you to parents who are parking considerately and safely now outside the nursery and as you will be aware when the sun is out the parking is not easy so please continue to be considerate and also patient if the roads are busy around us.

Covid19 Risk Assessment guidance: Just quick update – we still have guidance to follow RE: covid19, so for now collections will continue as they are however drop off is for all children from 8am for the morning and 1.30pm for the afternoon session. Room transitions are remaining as they are without taster session for the new room – but do not worry we will give you plenty of warning and staff will have a chat with you to help you prepare 😊

Staff will continue lateral flow testing as advised. Toys from home will still be restricted please. We have still not been undertaking physical viewings for prospective parents – we don't feel that its right to have prospective viewings in when you are not yet back in with us. Our heightened cleaning routines will remain in place as guidance has not changed so we continue to completely sterilise and deep clean every area daily. Please remember if your little ones show any symptoms at all of covid19 they will need to go for a PCR test – the lateral flow tests many of us have at home now are for asymptomatic testing and are not appropriate testing for those with symptoms. Although the world is getting back to normality – we ask you to remain alert, and of course do not bring your child in to us if they are unwell. Please continue to wear a mask face covering at collection. We will update you with a new plan as to when you will be invited in to collect your little ones – as you will be aware I have many ladies who are not double jabbed, so in the best interests of everyone's safety and ensuring we hopefully have no further disruptions we will be continuing as we are for the coming weeks.

Should anyone have any queries please let me know, but rest assured we are still doing everything possible to keep your little ones safe whilst with us.

Facebook Page: If you have not already, please do not forget to like our Facebook page! We put regular updates on there as well as pictures and videos of all the fantastic activities we get up too! Also, we would love any reviews from you all on the 'review' section of the page if you have a spare couple of minutes! 😊

Tapestry: How exciting! We have started to use our new tapestry apps to observe the little ones in the past week, we are still all finding our feet but you will receive a separate Tapestry update later this week with an invite to sign up to your own accounts. 😊 We are very excited to get this started with you and we know that you are going to love receiving the updates!

New faces: at the end of October, we will be having some new teachers join us at The Friendly Fish, our lovely Lisa has gone on MAT leave now, and we have another two ladies who will also be starting MAT leave in coming months. We will of course endeavour to keep you updated, we have started the recruitment process already for their cover so we can find the right people to join us and your little ones!

We also have some other staffing news, for those of you with little ones in the Toddler room, you will all know Nicola well. Nicola has run our Toddler room since we opened and will sadly be leaving us to pursue her next adventure! Although we will be sad to see her leave, I'm sure you will join us in wishing her all the very best in her new position. Nicola's last day with us will be Friday 22nd October. As Nicola is the Senior within this room, we are recruiting for her replacement as well as opening this to our current ladies for internal applicants for the Senior role. We will of course keep you all updated so just keep an eye out 😊

Dates for your diary:

Half Term week: W/C 25th October inclusive

Christmas 2021 closure week: W/C 27th December 2021 inclusive

Kind Regards,

Natalie and the Nursery Team