



Little Dragons Nursery



Berkshire Healthcare
NHS Foundation Trust

Newsletter – April 2024

Welcome

Welcome to the new families who have joined us and are due to join us through April. We hope you have all had a positive experience with your children's room teams and are settling into nursery life.

General Nursery News

Our biggest news is our garden development. As you will have seen, we have a new climbing frame structure with slides for the Red room and Blue room children. We designed this equipment a while ago and have been really excited about seeing it in the garden and watching the children enjoying playing on it.



We have also been busy developing our growing garden area. This is now a green space for the children to relax in with their friends, under the canopy of the blossom tree, with the gentle sound of windchimes, and nature around them.

We have replaced our outdoor water station with a more user-friendly unit and replaced 3 small trampolines as the children thoroughly enjoy them.



We have made a selection of book bag resources for each room to use. The children have really enjoyed some of their favourite stories coming to life with the addition of props linked to each story.



A huge thanks to the nursery families who joined us for our Easter coffee morning. We were joined by 'Katie Kakes', 'Little Oddities Club' crochet, Amanda's horse Shilling who was very well behaved and enjoyed the sunshine and attention for the morning. We also had Guinea Pig cuddles, games, crafts and food on offer.





Nursery Room News

All three age groups have been looking at celebrations over the last month, these have included, Chinese New Year, Pancake Day, Eid, St Davids Day, St Patricks Day, Mothers Day, Easter.



Bingo (named by Avani) joined the Red room. The children enjoy watching him explore his home, and regularly handle him. He also gets to exercise in his ball and roam around the Red room which delights the children.



Current Staffing information

We have had a few staffing changes over the last month.

Lia, Chelsea and Anna have successfully completed their level 3 in childcare and are now fully qualified.

Catherine has completed her level 2 in childcare and will be embarking on the level 3 with us.

Welcome to Madison who has joined us as a trainee and will be starting the level 2 qualification this month.

Welcome back to Kirsty who has been on maternity leave for 14 months. She will be stepping back into her post as the Team Leader in the Green room from 2nd April.

Sadly, Christine will be leaving us, and the world of childcare, at the end of April. Christine has been with us since we opened in 2003 and will be missed very much. We look forward to hearing all about her travels around America that she has been planning for some time, and hope for some fabulous postcards!

Leila, who joined us in October has now moved on to a Forest School.

Ellie-May was here briefly to finish her qualification with us and has now been successful in gaining a position within a children's home.

Hollie has been successful in gaining the Team Leader position that Chirstine will be leaving so will move from Blue room to Red room at the end of April.

Our room teams will look slightly different through April onwards with the following teams in place in each room:

Green Room

Kirsty – Team Leader

Hayley (Mon to Weds) - Nursery Nurse

Claire (Thurs and Fri) - Nursery Nurse

Cerys - Nursery Nurse

Chelsea - Nursery Nurse

Summer-Rose – Level 2 Trainee

Georgia - Level 2 Trainee

Red Room

Christine – Team Leader (until 26th April)

Hollie - Team Leader (from 29th April)

Rebecca – Nursery Nurse

Lia – Nursery Nurse

Catherine – Level 3 Trainee.

Blue Room

Michelle - Team Leader

Anna – Nursery Nurse (from 29th April)

Ellie – Level 2

Madison – Level 2 Trainee.

General Reminders

As we (hopefully!) move towards some fairer weather, please bring in a named sun hat for your child to use at nursery. We use the garden spaces in all weathers and temperatures so appropriate clothing and footwear is essential, especially hats in the summer months.

We will be applying suncream when required and there will be a separate information slip coming out to you over the coming weeks for this.

Please can we request, again, that when driving into the car park you adhere to the 5MPH speed limit, or slower. We regularly see parents speed into the car park at unreasonable speeds and this is an accident waiting to happen!

Nursery opens at 07.30 and closes promptly at 18.00. Your nursery fee pays for a maximum 10 hour day and any time after this 10 hours incurs a fine of £1 per minute. Collections after 18.00 are also subject to a fine of £1 per minute and persistent late collections will put your nursery place at risk of cancelation. If you require full feedback about your child's day, please arrive by 17.55 at the latest.

Thank you to the Blue room parents for waiting up at the cloak area for your children to be brought to you. This has really helped the children who find it distressing when they realise it is not their parent coming to collect them yet.

Please do not allow anyone into the nursery behind you as you come in, or as you leave. Politely ask them to ring the appropriate doorbell so staff can let them in. This is help keep our children and team safe.

Breakfast from 8am has worked really well for Red and Blue rooms, please remember if your child attends Blue room and is here before 8am, ring the Red room door bell so the staff can let you in.

As requested previously - on pick up, please don't allow your children to use the nursery garden play equipment. We politely request that you ensure your children stay with you at all times and to leave the nursery site safely after collecting younger ones from the Red room.

Our nursery garden equipment is for the specific 'early years' age groups, with use under adult supervision. Disappointingly one of the brand-new trampolines was damaged one evening during pick up time, before any of the nursery children had a chance to use it.

For safety reasons we don't allow or encourage children to open the garden gate latches or touch the keypad by the front door. This ensures they cannot exit the play spaces or building by themselves and helps to keep them safe.

Thank you for understanding and supporting us with these issues.

Fees and funding

If you have any queries regarding fees, the 15 or 30 hours funding for all ages or Tax Free Childcare please contact Katie Baker who is the Nursery Business Administrator for our three nurseries and is always happy to help parents.

katie.baker@berkshire.nhs.uk 07789 374217.

Dates for your Diary

April and May parents evening dates will be sent out to you separately.

Thursday 25th April - Fred in the Shed – Blue room children.

Thursday 2nd May - ECP in to take portrait photos of all children.

Monday 6th May – Bank Holiday, nursery closed

Monday 27th May – Bank Holiday, nursery closed

Friday 3rd May - Charlie Cooks favourite Book at the Hexagon with Blue room (participating children parents are now aware)

Wednesday 12th June - Fathers Day Breakfast and Play – More information to follow.

Monday 1st July - ECP in to take Preschool leavers photos.

Friday 30th August - Blue room leaving ceremony.

Website Information

Please be reminded that the nursery website provides information regarding policies, procedures, fees, diary dates and messages on the message board.



The website address is www.nurseries.berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk.

NURSERY CONTACT INFORMATION

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Thank you for your continued support for Little Dragons
Becca Croft