



Little Dragons Nursery



Berkshire Healthcare
NHS Foundation Trust

Newsletter – October 2023

Welcome

Welcome to our new families who have joined us over the last few months. We have enjoyed getting to know you all and hope you are settled into Dragons.

General Room News

As you will have seen we have boxes in our hallway for any Harvest Festival dry or tinned food contributions you wish to donate. We will then pass this onto a local church for the community.

We are in desperate need of newspapers for our huge Guinea Pig hutch. This is cleaned weekly, and we use the paper to line the hutch so if you have any papers that would usually go in your recycling box, please bring them in for us to use! Our piggies are very greedy, if you have more carrots, salad leaves, sweet peppers, green beans or celery than you don't know what to do with, they would happily eat them for you.

We were able to buy 2 'Dragon' Little Tikes cars from our 20 year anniversary event, and one of our families very kindly gifted us another when their daughter left for school. The children love playing with these, so a huge thanks to all of you for your help with this.





The Growing Garden



Green Room News

The Green room team have been welcoming new children to their room. They have been enjoying malleable activities, songs and stories and time in the garden. The children have been enjoying Pirate Week with a range of fun activities, and All About Me topic where they have been measuring their height and weighing themselves and talking about their families and pets.

Please keep an eye on the Green room door for parents evening dates and appointments.



All About Me hand and foot prints



Red Room News

The Red room Team have welcomed some new starters through September, and created different activities to help the children make new friends and settle into nursery life. They have also enjoyed dance sessions with Shelene on a Tuesday which they thoroughly enjoy.

Anna has been reading to the children in Polish – The children have been intrigued to hear different languages they may not usually experience. If any bilingual parents would like to book in a story reading session where you can read to the children in your home language, we would be thrilled to organise this with you.

Please keep an eye on the Red room door for parents evening dates and appointments.

Blue Room News

At the end of August, we said farewell to our preschool children leaving for school and celebrated this with a leaver's ceremony. We also organised an informal evening for the parents of the school leavers to come in and chat over coffee with each other.

Packed lunch days were enjoyed by all the children in Blue room and were a really good experience for them before they moved on to school.

Shelene is also providing dance session in the Blue room on Tuesdays, with a different topic each week. The children get so much enjoyment from this high energy, involved session, it is a firm favourite time of the week for them.

Pirate week has seen the children enjoy making telescopes, hats, sea themed songs and stories, and making their own treasure hunts! The photographs from Red and Blue Room show pirate small world play, painting pirates and of course, the pirate ship!

Please keep an eye on the Blue room door for parents evening dates and appointments.



Staff Update

As you will have seen, we have some new staff that have started with us through the late summer.

Please join us in welcoming Rebecca, Anna, Georgia and Summer-Rose.

Rebecca is level 3 qualified. Anna has completed level 2 and will soon be fully qualified with a level 3. Georgia and Summer-Rose are embarking on the level 2 in childcare so join us as Trainees.

We hope to have Ellie-May with us very soon, she will join us with a level 2 qualifications and will be finishing off her level 3 with us.

Cerys and Chelsea also finished their level 3 framework over the summer and Cerys was successful in gaining one of our level 3 positions.

General Reminders

Please bring in any Wow Moments your children have achieved at home, or any events you have enjoyed together so we can display these on our hallway board.

We will all be accessing the outdoors space in all weathers so please remember to bring NAMED wellie boots and warm coats.

Please note, we do not wear welly boots in the nursery rooms, so if your child arrives in these, please change their footwear before they come into the room.

There have been a number of occasions recently where parents have driven round, into the car park next to nursery at high speed. The car park has a max speed of 5MPH, please adhere to this.

We would also like to highlight the use of correct car seats when traveling in vehicles. Information about different seats and safety can be found here: [Child car seats: the law: Using a child car seat or booster seat - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/topics/child-car-seats)

Please be aware, we close at 6pm so if you require a lengthy or more in-depth feedback you will need to arrive by 5.45 at the latest.

A note from Katie regarding the new 2 year old funding starting in April 2024. I have received a few enquiries regarding this funding and at present, I am only able to advise parents that the funding will be for ELIGIBLE WORKING PARENTS ONLY. I have not received any further information from Early Years on exactly how the funding will operate. As soon as I have more information, I will contact all relevant parents by email.

If you have any queries regarding fees, the 15 or 30 hours funding 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

Tuesday 21st November - ECP are in to take portrait photos of the children from 9am to 11am. If you do not usually attend on that day and would like a portrait photo of your child, please pop in between 9.30 and 10.00 for this.

Week commencing 11th December - Christmas Fun Week , more information to follow.

Saturday 2nd December - Christmas Fayre from 10.30am to 12.30pm. If you have any suitable tombola prizes (new, unused items) please start to bring them in.

Our Partners

We are engaging with multi agencies which will enable us to support our families. This includes Health Visitors, Early Years and the Local Authority and we will share information accordingly.

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

Becca Croft Nursery Manager
rebecca.croft@berkshire.nhs.uk

Louise Wye Deputy Manager
louise.wye@berkshire.nhs.uk

Nursery telephone number 0118 9044638

Lee Owen-Macleod Nursery Area Manager 07557 207429
lee.owenmacleod@berkshire.nhs.uk

Thank you for your continued support for Little Dragons
Becca Croft