

**FIRST STEPS NURSERY
DECEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER**

WISHING YOU ALL A MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Welcome to the Christmas Edition of the First Steps Newsletter!

Firstly I would just like to take a moment to thank all of you who attended the Festive Evening and for those parents who had a stall!

I would also like to thank you for donating to Children in Need, we raised £89.93 this year!

DECEMBER INVOICES

December invoices have been emailed out, please can I ask that all payments are made by 14th December. January 2019 invoices will be emailed out during the week commencing 17th December.

UPCOMING CHRISTMAS EVENTS

The children's Christmas lunch will take place on **12th December** and the menu will be either, sliced roast turkey with chipolata sausage or roasted vegetable and cranberry wellington with vegetarian sausage both served with garlic roast thyme potatoes, carrot batons, garden peas, a stuffing ball and gravy with a Christmas biscuit to finish. Please speak to a member of staff if your child would like a Christmas dinner (£1.15 for babies & £2.30 for all other children)

If parents would like any more raffle tickets for our Christmas hampers, please see a member of staff. Tickets are £1 each. Please can I ask that any donations that you are making for the hamper be in date and can all raffle tickets and money be returned by Friday **14th December**. The raffle will be drawn during the last week before we break up before Christmas.

During the week commencing **17th December**, children are welcome to come to nursery dressed in Christmas jumpers. Our staff will be getting into the Christmas spirit too that week!

Please can I ask that all parents/carers inform the nursery staff as soon as possible about whether their child is attending their rooms' Christmas party if they do not already attend on that day? Parents of children who do not normally attend do not have to stay with their child, they can be dropped off and picked up after the party.

Food lists for the party are in each room. Please can I ask for you to donate an item of food from the list? The parties are on the following times and dates:

Tuesday 18th December - 14.00-16.00 - Little Learners

Wednesday 19th December - 14.00-15.30 - Baby room

Wednesday 19th December - 15.00-16.30 - Toddler Room

Friday 21st December 14.00-16.00 - Pre-school (this party will take place in the Drama Studio and the adjoining classrooms at Yateley School which is situated next to Yateley Library). For children that do not normally attend on a Friday, please can you drop your child off at the party from 14.00?

Each building has a Christmas post box for the children to send cards to their friends and key people. Please can I ask you to try to put the surname or surname initial on each card.

PARKING

Parking outside pre-school. As this car park is so small, we are encountering some parents getting blocked in by other users. Please can I ask that the car park is not used by parents that also have children at school when collecting their older children. The car park should only be used by staff and by parents for quick use when dropping and picking up children from pre-school or other nursery buildings.

LEARNING BOOK

All our staff have been in the process of writing development summative assessments for each child which are on the Learning Book. Staff are asking parents to sign a hard copy of this assessment which will be kept at the nursery. For those parents who are interested in how we use the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework (EYFS) which focuses on the children's learning and development, the development matters document which staff use as guidance to help them understand and support each individual child's development pathway is now available on our website for you to review.

EXISTING INJURIES FORM

We have introduced "existing injuries" forms which is a requirement of Ofsted for parents to complete should a child come into nursery with an injury that has occurred outside of the nursery. We are in the process of updating these forms to make them easier for parents to complete but please can I ask that parents include as much information about the injury and how it happened, in as much detail as possible to ensure we are meeting the requirement needed.

NEW YEAR

Just a reminder that the nursery will be closed from **Friday 21st December** until **Wednesday 2nd January**.

Hot dinners will be available from **Monday 7th January** on a **week 1** so please provide your child with a packed lunch from **Wednesday 2nd January** to **Friday 4th January**.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continuing support and to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year!

Best Wishes

Heidi & the Team