

# NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents, Guardians and Friends,

A very Happy New Year and a big WELCOME to new parents to Bluebird, we hope your little one has settled in and is enjoying the many new experiences that pre-school brings. This is our termly newsletter, please keep it safe and mark all events onto your calendar.

We were so pleased to hear how much you enjoyed our Christmas Concert last term, the children are always happy to perform and did a marvellous job of entertaining us once again. Many thanks to the parents who helped out in the kitchen serving tea & coffee where we raised £47.10 towards new Montessori apparatus.

On behalf of all our staff may we say a BIG thank you for the generous Christmas gifts handed in to the teachers before the holiday, they were greatly received and enjoyed!

We welcome a new assistant to the staff team this term. Rosie will be working alongside Jo and Angela in A&T groups (3&4 yr olds).

## IMPORTANT MESSAGES

**1. As the winter progresses can I remind all parents that wellington boots are not suitable for nursery. Please change your child into suitable indoor shoes before coming into class.**



2. It is important that you send in a fresh sports bottle full of water for your child to access during play. Please don't send disposable bottles, only clearly labelled sports bottles.

**3. Please remember that Bluebird closes at 4pm prompt. Some parents are repeatedly arriving after 4pm and incurring a fine, which is currently £5 per half hour. To avoid children becoming distressed and to allow staff to vacate the premises on time please ensure you collect your children BEFORE 4pm. Thank you for your understanding.**

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Colour Days

Thursday 9th February is Red day

Thursday 16th February is Blue day

Thursday 23rd February is Green day

Thursday 2nd March is Yellow day

Don't forget to dress in the colour of the day. This is a fun way to help children with colour recognition!



## In Class...

The downstairs class of 2-3 year olds have started the term with more Montessori challenges including the pink tower and sound boxes. Upstairs classes are making beautiful calendars to take home, learning the days of the week, months of the year and reading the first book this term 'I've Been Kind' by Jen Porter.

## Chinese New Year

All classes will be acknowledging the year of the Rooster during the week of Jan 23rd with crafts, music and stories. We invite all children to bring in any items they may have of interest for show and tell that week. On the afternoon of Friday 27th there will be a special lantern making session with a chance for children to test their chop stick skills at the noodle bar! Book early, places are limited.

## Valentine's Day Celebration Tuesday 12th Feb

Classes will be celebrating by baking biscuits and writing love notes to their friends. In the afternoon there will be a heavenly chocolate fondue party with fresh fruit kebabs. There are 4 places left for the fondue afternoon.

## British Birds

Throughout this term the children will learn to recognise some common British birds, the sounds that they make and how to provide food for them throughout the winter. Please help by tuning in to the BBC Big Garden Bird watch between **28-30th Jan** and try to recognise a few varieties with your child. There will be opportunities in class to make some cool binoculars along with trips outside to practice bird watching skills. On Monday **30th January** there will be an afternoon session where children can make their own bird feeder and play a fun game of bird bingo with treats and prizes. You can book in extra with Mrs C or Angela.



## **Thursday 2nd March is WORLD BOOK DAY!!**

Everyone is welcome to come to Bluebird dressed as their favourite character from a book (and if possible bring the book too!) As this is our Music day with Hannah the piano player, please provide suitable footwear. (This is also our designated Yellow day so feel free to dress in yellow as an alternative).

### **Spring Baking Sessions**

There will be 4 afternoon sessions this term when children can Make & Bake!

**Everyone is welcome to book in extra for these sessions. See Angela or Mrs C.**

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March – **Fruity Smoothies** including strawberries, blueberries and raspberries.

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March - We're making **Mothers Day Fudge** a perfect sweet gift for Mummy!

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March – **Hot Cross Buns**

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April – **Easter Nests** with Cadbury's chocolate eggs YUMMY!



**Storytime** We have some wonderful books to explore this term. Upstairs are going to be sharing the classic tale Goldilocks along with 'Pancakes, Pancakes' by Eric Carle, 'Kangaroos Lucky Escape' by Steve Parish and the children's choice 'Owl Babies' by Martin Waddell. 'B' Group downstairs are enjoying the classic tale of the '3 little pigs' along with stories and songs about farm animals. Their children's choice is 'Say hello like this' by Mary Murphy.

**On Tuesday Afternoons** we hold a session aimed at developing Yoga skills. Each week the children work together to copy some easy poses and try some basic breathing techniques. This term's poses will include the beginners versions of the Chinese Zodiac animals!



### **Mothers In March**

We are inviting Mums of the older children in for a stay and play on Monday mornings during the month of March. There will be a rota drawn up for you to choose a session, if you are interested in coming to play for an hour from 9-10am then pop your name on the list. At the moment we are only holding stay and plays for the upstairs groups as we have found in the past that the youngest children downstairs get too upset when Mum has to leave.

### **THE EASTER HAT PARADE!**

On the morning of Thursday 6th April we have our annual Easter Hat Parade. It's always lots of fun and everyone is encouraged to make a hat at home and bring it in to wear on the day. Hannah will be here to play the piano while we all parade around as Judy Garland and Fred Astaire to the old favourite 'The Easter Parade'. Later Hannah will congratulate all entrants and choose the Best Bonnet/Hat of the day!



**END OF TERM** Friday 7th April is our last day of term. Bluebird will re-open on Monday 24th April.

### **Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!**

A big thank you to those parents who kindly donate toys and books to Bluebird each term. Last term we received some super art supplies, mobile phones, dress up costumes and wooden shop role play... they were very much appreciated! If you are having a clear out we are in desperate need of knickers, underpants and socks!

### **REMINDERS**

Please be mindful of our healthy eating policy when packing your child's snacks/lunches.

We really **don't** want to see crisps or chocolate in lunch bags anymore and if possible please avoid sugary drinks and biscuits. We would **LOVE** to see more items such as chopped up berries, tomatoes, carrot sticks and cucumbers. Healthy eating awards are given out daily to children who bring vegetables and fruit. **Remember to cut grapes in half length ways and** DON'T FORGET A FREEZER PACK TO KEEP EVERYTHING FRESH. ❄️❄️



### **Bank Holidays**

Bluebird will be closed on 1<sup>st</sup> May and Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May. Fees are due as normal for Bank Holidays that fall in term time. We do not close for half term holidays.

### **Paying Fees**

To limit administration time, all weekly fees must be paid in advance on Mondays. Information on extra charges and government grants is available. Please, please seal all fees in an envelope with Name, Class and Date marked on the front. Once again thank you to those parents who spread the good word about Bluebird Kindergarten and who pass on our contact details to friends and family.

Finally we would like to wish you a lovely Easter.

Sheila & Joanne Carmichael and the staff at Bluebird

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