

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 is settling in and 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 Crafts and Sing A Long mornings last term, we think the children were outstanding as always and sang so beautifully. Well done!

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

We'd like to wish a warm welcome to Gill Harvey, a new member of staff who is joining us in the downstairs beginner's class for 3 mornings each week.

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. For safety and comfort during activities, long hair must be tied up securely and long fringes pinned back.

3. It is always best to send your child into nursery in clothes that encourage independence and that are easy for them to manage when going to the toilet. Loose fitting, stretchy trousers are ideal for nursery, please avoid lots of layers with tricky buttons and belts! We can accept children who are still potty training in pull-ups but NOT nappies sorry.

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 and remember to label your child's bottle clearly with their name.

3. Sessions end at 12 noon and 4pm. Please be on the premises 10 minutes before the end of your session in order to collect belongings, chat to staff and use the toilet etc.

4. Upstairs classes are starting to use the self registration boards outside room 10. Children will enjoy checking in and out by turning their card each time they arrived/leave.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Colour Days

Thursday 14th February is Red day

Thursday 21st February is Blue day

Thursday 28th February is Green day

Thursday 7th 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!



Australia Day



On Friday 25th January we will have some fun celebrating Australia Day! There will be stories about native Australian animals, didgeridoo crafts and aboriginal music to enjoy. Children are welcome to dress up and bring in any show and tell they have relating to Australia.

Beautiful 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 **26th-28th 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 the final bird watch day, Monday **28th January**, there will be an afternoon session where children can make their own bird feeder and play a fun game of bird bingo.

Chinese New Year

All classes will be acknowledging the year of the Pig during the week of Feb 4th - 8th with crafts, music and stories. We invite all children to bring in any items they may have for show-and-tell that week. On the afternoon of Friday Feb 8th there will be a special lantern making session with a chance for children to test their chop stick skills at the noodle bar!

Valentine's Day Celebration Thursday 14th Feb

All classes will be celebrating by singing friendship songs, listening to stories about acts of kindness and writing supportive notes for others. In the afternoon there will be a heavenly chocolate fondue party with fresh fruit kebabs.

Thursday 7th 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 teacher, please provide suitable footwear for skipping and marching. (This is also our designated **Green Day** so feel free to dress in Green as an alternative).

Spring Baking Sessions

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

Monday February 18th – **Fruity Yogurt Smoothies** including strawberries, blueberries and raspberries.

Tuesday March 5th **Hot Cross Buns** with juicy raisins and all-spice.

Friday 29th March - We're making **Mothers Day Fudge** a perfect sweet gift for Mummy!

Wednesday 10th April **Easter Tea Party** make fun shaped sandwiches and delicious fruit tea.

Storytime

We have some wonderful books to explore this term.

Upstairs are going to be sharing the classic tale The 3 Little Pigs, along with Pancakes, Pancakes by Eric Carle and the children's choice 'I want my Hat Back' by Jon Klassen. During Chinese New Year we will be hearing a story about the Chinese New Year animals. 'B' Group downstairs are enjoying the classic tale of Goldilocks along with a lovely book about Winter by Ailie Busby.



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 include insects, Spring animals, working with partners and flowers.

Mothers In March

We are inviting all mums in for a stay & play 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 11-12 noon, then pop your name on the list.

THE EASTER HAT PARADE!

On the morning of Thursday 11th 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 to the old favourite 'The Easter Parade'.

Later Hannah will congratulate all entrants and choose the Best Hat of the day!

END OF TERM Friday 12th April is our last day of term. Bluebird will re-open on **TUESDAY** 23rd April.

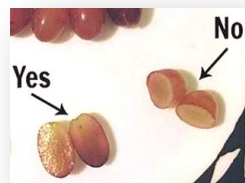
FOOD SAFETY REMINDERS

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. We regularly discuss healthy choices with the children at the lunch table and encourage them to try new foods whenever possible!

1. **Remember to cut grapes in half LENGTH ways.**
2. **Please only send in PEELED apples as the skin can be a choking hazard.**
3. PLEASE, PLEASE do not send nuts or seeds in packed lunches as we have children who are highly allergic.
4. DON'T FORGET A FREEZER PACK TO KEEP EVERYTHING FRESH! Thanks.



Bank Holiday Closures

Bluebird will be closed on Monday 6th May and Monday 27th May. Staff use these days for training and cleaning. Fees are due as normal for Bank Holidays that fall in term time.

Please note, we do not close for half term holidays.

Paying Fees

To limit administration time, all weekly fees must be paid in advance on your first session each week. Information on extra charges and government funding is available. Please, please seal all fees in an envelope with name, class and date marked on the front.

Finally we would like to wish you a lovely, relaxing Easter break.

Sheila & Joanne Carmichael and the staff at Bluebird

www.bluebirdkindergarten.co.uk

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