



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.

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!

At Bluebird, the upstairs classes are referred to as 'Transition' and 'A' group (our oldest) where staff members Angela and Sam are currently based. Downstairs is our beginner's class referred to as 'B' Group where you'll find Joanne (Manager) and Laura.

### **IMPORTANT MESSAGES THIS TERM!**

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.
4. Please check your child's hair regularly for head lice, that way we can prevent them from spreading.
5. Sessions end promptly at 12 noon and 4pm. Please be on the premises **10 minutes** before the end of your session in order to collect belongings, meet up with other parents, chat to staff and use the toilet etc.

### **FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

Colour Days

**Thursday 13th February is Red day**

**Thursday 20th February is Blue day**

**Thursday 27th February is Green day**

**Thursday 5th 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**

During the week of 20<sup>th</sup> January we will have some fun celebrating everything Australian. 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. We would like to take this opportunity to raise funds for their bushfire crisis.

### **Beautiful Birds**

We will be listening to and identifying some common garden birds in class this term. Please help by tuning in to the RSPB's Big Garden Bird watch between **25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> Jan** and try to recognise a few varieties with your child. On the final day, Monday 27<sup>th</sup> Jan, we will celebrate by making eco-friendly birdfeeders in class.

### **Chinese New Year**

All classes will be acknowledging the year of the RAT during the week of Feb 3rd 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 7th 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 and RAK week**

All classes will be singing friendship songs during February, listening to stories about acts of kindness and writing supportive notes for others. On the afternoon of February 14<sup>th</sup> there will be a heavenly chocolate fondue party with fresh fruit kebabs.

## Thursday 5th March is WORLD BOOK DAY!!

Everyone is welcome to come to Bluebird dressed as their favourite storybook character (and if possible bring the book too!) This is also our **designated YELLOW DAY** so feel free to dress in yellow as an alternative.

### Spring Baking Sessions

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

-  Monday morning February 10th – **Fruity Yogurt Smoothies** including strawberries, blueberries and raspberries.
-  Wednesday afternoon March 5<sup>th</sup> we are baking **Hot Cross Buns** with juicy raisins and all-spice.
-  Friday morning 20th March - We're making **Mothers Day Fudge** a perfect sweet gift for Mummy!
-  Thursday afternoon on 2nd April is our **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 of The Little Red Hen, along with The Runaway Pancake and the children's choice 'Chickens Aren't The Only Ones' by Ruth Heller. They will also be hearing a story about the Chinese New Year animals and 'Kira The Koala' by Dawn Apperley. 'B' Group downstairs are enjoying 'OH DEAR' by Rod Campbell and the exciting sequel to Shark in the Park, SHARK IN THE DARK!! by Nick Sharratt.



**On Tuesday Afternoons** this term we are holding 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.

### THE EASTER HAT PARADE!

On the morning of Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> of April we are holding 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. The children and staff will be marching and dancing to Vivaldi's Spring concerto.

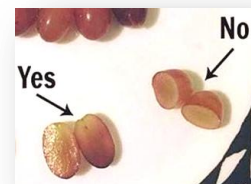


**END OF TERM** Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> of April is our last day of term. Bluebird will re-open on Monday 20th April.

### FOOD SAFETY REMINDERS

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

Please refrain from sending crisps or chocolate in lunch bags and if possible please avoid sugary drinks and biscuits. We would **LOVE** to see more items such as **chopped up** berries, chopped 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 and other closures-

Bluebird will be closed on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May as the building is used as a polling station for the local elections.

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May Bluebird will be closed for the early May Bank Holiday.

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May Bluebird will be closed for the Spring Bank Holiday. Fees are due as normal for Bank Holidays that fall in term time.

Please note, we do not close for any 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.

Sheila & Joanne Carmichael and the staff at Bluebird  
[www.bluebirdkindergarten.co.uk](http://www.bluebirdkindergarten.co.uk)  
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