

Newsletter Spring Term

January 2018



I do hope that you all had a wonderful Christmas and would like to wish you all a happy, healthy 2018. The children have arrived back with lots of wonderful Christmas tales and exciting stories to share with everyone. Please remember to send in any photos that you would like to share with us.

Shadwell Childcare has started 2018 with lots of progress already made! We begin the new year with a new kitchen, an audit of resources, a marvellous maths training course and we are now trialling an online parents communication tapestry system.

Please be aware that on Thursday 25th October we will be closing OOSC at 5pm for mandatory staff training, please can you collect you child no later than 5pm to allow all staff to attend.

Thank you for your continuing support and please feel free to speak to me at any time with any questions that you may have regarding any area of the setting or if you have any ideas on celebrations or activities that you would like to see in the nursery. Your support and feedback is valuable to us. Happy new year, Paula Wilson, Childcare Manager

Our Important Dates this term are;

Thursday 25 th January	- OOSC closes at 5pm for mandatory staff training
Wednesday 7 th February	- Parents evening Bluebell room
Thursday 8 th February	- Parents evening Sunflower room
Friday 9 th February	- Nursery Closes for Half Term
Monday 12 th – 16 th February	- Holiday Club – open for 2-11 year olds (8am - 6pm) Booking required
Monday 19 th February	- Breakfast club, Nursery and OOSC reopen
Thursday 29 th March	- Nursery closes for Easter
Tuesday 3 rd – Friday 13 th April	- Easter Holiday Club opens for 2-11 year olds
Monday 16 th April	- Breakfast club, Nursery and OOSC reopen (8am - 6pm) Booking required



- Chinese New Year and Shrove Tuesday will be celebrated in both rooms throughout week commencing 5th February

Bluebell has a new kitchen!

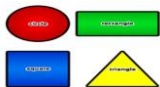
This will make a huge difference for all of the staff making breakfast and OOSC meals for the many hungry children. Over the past 12 months focus has been on how we can provide a wide variety of meals whilst making sure they are also healthy and something the children would like to eat. The feedback from both parents and children has been wonderful. It is nice to know that the hard work put into menu choices and preparing meals is welcomed and that the children are happy to attend.

Online Tracker System

Everyone within Shadwell Childcare works relentlessly to ensure that all children within our care are given every opportunity to achieve their very best. We continually review our processes, learning objectives and moderations systems to ensure that learning is fun and lead by the child's interests. The changes made over the last 12 months were recognised when we were awarded Outstanding by Ofsted. This is something that we are very proud of although we acknowledge that the hard work does not stop there.

To enable us to continue moving forward we have purchased a Tracker System. The innovative Tracker App enables EYFS development observations to be made from a tablet, producing comprehensive learning journals. It enables staff to capture photographs, tag the relevant EYFS / CoEL for each individual child and then enables us to track progress and produce analytical reports for all areas of learning. The staff have been using the system throughout December to familiarise themselves and we continue to input and update each child's details.

I will be in touch with user instructions as soon as we are ready to go live and send out user details. In the meantime the staff will continue to complete the children's learning profiles to the same exceptionally high standard.



Sound and Maths Box



Each week we will continue to focus on a key sound from the alphabet to enhance our phonics.

The letter order will be emailed for the upcoming term and displayed in the cloakroom. Children are encouraged to bring an object to nursery that begins with that phonetic sound; for example;

'A' could be Apple or Ant (but not A as in Angel)

From this term we will also be introducing a Maths box. For Sunflower this will include numbers up to 5 as well as recognising colours and shapes. Bluebell will focus on the next stages including numbers to 10 in stages understanding what makes each number as well as number bonds and focus on patterns

Many children within our setting can count to high numbers however the focus has now returned to basics for all maths areas. Children are required to recognise, say each number, count, write and understand each number, shape or colour with confidence before moving to the next stages.

Children are encouraged to bring in any item that supports this learning for example a photo of your house number, a circle toy or coloured piece of material. Anything that helps them recognise the object and current learning objective.

Funding update

15 hours

All children aged 3 and 4 years are entitled to 15 hours funded childcare from the term after they turn 3 years old. The spring term covers January - March. We automatically apply for your funding with LCC and a parents contract will be raised for you to check and sign. You will be asked to sign a funding form this week if your child is eligible. The funding is automatically deducted from your invoice so please let the office know if you think this is incorrect or missing. Please advise the office immediately if your child shares funding with another setting or child minder.

30 hours

Many families are able to receive 30 hours funded childcare where eligible. Please see www.childcarechoices.co.uk for further information. Where funding is applicable it is the parents' responsibility to apply for the funding every 3 months. Should you not renew your 11 digit code you will be eligible for the full nursery charges for that term. Shadwell Childcare will complete a parent's contract on your behalf which you will be required to sign.

Please note that whilst we offer 30 hour funding to all we cannot guarantee we have 30 hours available due to capacity. If you are wishing to increase your hours please speak with the office to check for availability.

If you have any questions on your invoice or funding please email or speak to me and I will be happy to help.

Holiday Clubs and Year-Round bookings

Attached is the Year-Round booking form which will reserve your child a place in all holiday clubs throughout the year and therefore guaranteeing your sessions for 50 week-a-year.

If you do not wish to book year-round sessions you will only have your sessions booked for term time (38 weeks). You can continue to complete the holiday booking form for each half term as it is released and places will be allocated on a first come first served basis. We cannot guarantee a place for holiday club unless you use the year round booking form.

Please note that we are closed bank holidays, the week between Christmas and New Year and also the week of August bank holiday where we have training and a full nursery deep clean. Term dates are on the noticeboards and available on the website.

Year round booking form

I / we are interested in securing a place year round for;

Name of Child; _____

DOB: _____

Sessions attending year round (please tick)

	8:00 – 6:00	9:00 – 3:30	8:00 – 1:00	1:00 – 6:00
Monday				
Tuesday				
Wednesday				
Thursday				
Friday				

I / we understand that:

- My regular sessions will be pre-booked for the full year (September 2017 – August 2018)
- Charges will be applicable all year round excluding w/c 27th August and Christmas week when the setting is closed
- Funding will be applied in full across 38 weeks and additional weeks will be invoiced at full price
- Charges will apply for non-attendance including holidays or sickness as per term time
- Changes to sessions will require half terms notice

Signed _____

Date _____

Learning objectives in Sunflower Room term....

We are going to learn lots about shapes and colours this half term



This term we are concentrating on maths, this includes numbers, colours and shapes. We have trays set out each day with different colours and the children are encouraged to discuss each colour individually and also mix them together to discover what new colours they can make.

Mixing is never more fun than when you are hands on!



We are also introducing shapes and the children have been using lots of the toys to make circles from cups, squares with building blocks and long lines with the wheels of the cars, they are encouraged to discover the shapes throughout the nursery to use them within the trays!

We are learning what makes a number – exactly how many is 3? We are also forming our numbers and writing them on boards, in sand and lots of other fun ways.



Later on this term we will also be looking at cold weather. We will discuss clothing, cold countries and there will be lots of ice experiments. The team (particularly Ni) are also very excited to build an igloo! Please could you bring in your milk cartons for us to use!



This half term has many festivals and special days that we will be taking part in including Chinese New Year, Valentine's Day and Pancake day! If you can talk about any special days to the children we would be delighted to hear from you!

IMPORTANT NOTE

Early Closure for Training

We will be closing OOSC on Thursday 25th January at 5pm

Please collect your child on time to allow all staff to attend

Bluebell Room learning objectives....

Welcome to Lauren who has joined the team. Lauren joined us last month and has been spending time with her key children and learning all about our wonderful setting. Lauren has many years' experience and has an enthusiasm for story grab bags which we know the children will enjoy. I am sure you will all welcome Lauren to the team.



This term we are focusing on maths this term. What makes up a number? We are having lots of fun working this out through singing lots of number rhymes with actions and even fishing out number balls with our fishing rods! We are also learning about colours and mixing to make new colours!



In technology we have the super exciting job of building our own computer, how tricky! We are practicing with the cameras, using binoculars and looking at new ways of learning on our tablets. The fabulous maths bee bots will also be used, which makes maths and technology so much fun!

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