



A VERY WARM WELCOME

Welcome to all of our returning children and a warm welcome to all of our new children and families. After a turbulent year it is heart warming to see the nursery full of energy and the children thriving and having so much fun.

Many of you may be aware that Shadwell Childcare has remained open continuously throughout lockdown and the following months. We have worked hard to ensure we could provide sessions to all of the families that needed them and to minimise any effects on our children. **A big thank you to the staff** who have worked exceptionally hard throughout this time and now with additional cleaning, increased checks and new risk assessments to keep everyone safe, there is no doubt this has helped in keeping the setting open and this has all been with smiles and warm welcomes and lots of reassurance for families over uncertain times.

As your children begin with us we understand that you are eager to know what they are doing each day and if they are happy and settled. A letter regarding how we will communicate the activities and the learning was recently emailed to you. We believe that the parent relationship is incredibly important in the care we offer the children and we also want you see how happy they are and how much fun the children have with us! The update is attached again for information.

Thank you to those who have taken the time to speak with me, the room leaders or have emailed in. You have all mentioned how happy you are with the settling in process and how well your child has adapted to the setting, it is reassuring to hear such feedback.

Your feedback is always valued and any suggestions you have we always welcome. Details are;
office@shadwellchildcare.org - General queries, absences, requests for session changes
p.wilson@shadwellchildcare.org - Staff, safeguarding, financial queries and confidential concerns

With warmest wishes
Paula Wilson, Childcare Manager

Key Dates:

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| Friday 22nd October: | Close for October half term |
| Mon 25th - Fri 29th October: | October half term: (Holiday club open 8am-6pm, booking required) |
| Friday 26 th November: | School training day – nursery will remain open 7.30am – 6.00pm |
| Monday 20th - Thursday 23rd Dec: | Christmas holiday club: (Holiday club open 8am-6pm, booking required) |
| Friday 24th Dec Monday 3rd January: | Nursery closed |
| Tuesday 4th January 7.30am: | Start of Term Re-open 7.30am |
| Monday 21st Friday 25th February: | February Half term: (Holiday club open 8am-6pm, booking required) |
| Monday 4th - Thursday 14th April: | Easter break: (Holiday club open 8am-6pm, booking required) |
| Friday 15th April: | Nursery closed: Good Friday |
| Monday 18th April: | Nursery closed: Easter Monday |
| Monday 30th May - Weds 1st June: | May/June Half term: (Holiday club open 8am-6pm, booking required) |
| Thursday 2nd/Friday 3rd June: | Nursery closed: Bank holiday |
| Friday 22nd July: | End of academic school year |
| Summer club starts: | Monday 25 th July - Friday 26 th August |
| w/c Monday 29th Aug | Nursery closed - reopen w/c 5th Sept date TBC in-line with school start |

Covid-19 and illnesses

Whilst we are all delighted to be back in nursery, we still have to remain vigilant. **Can we please ask that if your child is not attending nursery that you call to let the office know and state the reason as this allows us to monitor any absences.**

A reminder that symptoms of Coronavirus are:

- A high temperature
- A new, continuous cough
- A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste
- Also in younger children there are also tummy ache, headaches and feeling unwell as general guidance

If your child has any of the first three symptoms whilst in nursery you will be required to collect your child as a priority. If you travel abroad please let the office know so we can check guidance regarding your child's return.

A runny nose is not a sign of coronavirus and children can attend the setting if well enough but we would ask you keep them off if they require Calpol or medication to prevent others becoming unwell

We are aware that due to isolation over the last year, many child illnesses and virus's may now be around. These include chicken pox, sickness and diarrhoea. Within our setting we are continuing to ask for hands to be washed at drop off and will be spraying down all toys and touch points daily. We do ask if your child is unwell please keep them off nursery and let us know so that we can monitor numbers. *Remember to ensure your contact details are up to date for any emergencies.*

We appreciate your support.

Holiday Club

Our Holiday club is always extremely popular and you are now able to book for October half term.

Please note that payment is now required 48 hours from confirmation in order to secure your place. Failure to make payment will result in your place being offered to others on the waiting list. All terms and conditions are on the booking form.

Year round children do not need to complete the booking form

October half term club will run Monday 25th – Friday 29th October 8:00am-18:00pm



Learning of the week

To enhance our development, we will be continuing with the learning of the week – a letter, number, shape and book.

The list of what Jolly Phonics sound, number, shape and book we will be focusing on will be shared via the blog on Parents Link and is also displayed in the entrance area. You should have received the one for this term already and it's so exciting when children bring in items for the number or letter of the week to share with us all.

What you can do at home to extend the learning...

If you and your child can look for items relating to the learning objective and bring them in, the children have the opportunity to share these with each other. Examples could be:

Number of the week is number 2 – you could bring in two stones, a photo of your house number if you live at number 2, a colouring of two things....



Funding

15 hours

All children aged 3 and 4 years are entitled to 15 hours funded childcare from the term after they turn 3 year old. We automatically apply for your funding with LCC and a parents contract will be raised for you to check and sign. The Autumn term covers September – December. The funding is automatically deduced from your invoice so please let the office know if you think this is incorrect.

30 hours

Some families may be able to receive 30 hours funded childcare subject to eligibility. Please see www.childcarechoices.gov.uk for further information.

Where 30 hours are 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 charges for that term. As a setting we are unable to check eligibility or obtain codes on your behalf.

Funding for 2 year olds, EYPP, SEN is available – please speak with the office for eligibility criteria

If you have any questions on your invoice or funding please email the office and we will be happy to help.

Learning objectives in Sunflower Room this term....

We are going to be settling in, making new friends and having lots of fun!!

A BIG HELLO to all our children! Our returning children have come in with big smiles and are so excited to see their friends again! Of course, a very big welcome to our new friends and families who have started with us this September, we are excited to meet you and have lots of fun!

We very much appreciate the support and trust from our parents, we know it can be hard to leave your child, especially if they are unsettled, but please be reassured we've been there for those who need a little more support with lots of comfort and cuddles. They are doing so well, we are genuinely so proud of them.

Over this half term, we will be allowing the new starters to settle and spending lots of time playing with them and getting to know them. All the children have already been busy exploring their new nursery, discovering fun toys to play with and building relationships with staff and children. We will focus on Personal, Social and Emotional development part of the prime areas of EYFS.

We will be:

- supporting children learning our nursery routine e.g. snack time, lunch time and carpet time. Our returning children have the important job of helping new children find the equipment and showing them where things are to help strengthen bonds between us all.
- encouraging children to help us decorate the setting both indoors and outside to give them a sense of ownership and belonging. Staff will be responsive to their needs and interests - this is their nursery after all!
- making a wonderful family photo frame to display in Home Corner (like their own gallery) – thank you to everyone who has sent in family photos. It is wonderful to hear the children telling each other who is in their photos and talk about their families and special people.

We have started to read some traditional fairy tales this term and have lots of fun planned to enhance our learning around the stories – sensory experiences with oats (three little bears), growing our own beanstalks (Jack and the beanstalk) and making gingerbread salt dough decorations (Gingerbread man) are just the start.

We are looking forward to Autumn and to integrate various aspects of the EYFS into our play. We are hoping to make some pumpkin soup, go on Autumn nature hunts around the allotment and plant some vegetables in the Rainbow garden. We will take part in the Pyjama Drama sessions singing and acting out things around Autumn, celebrate the harvest festival and create some potions in our mud kitchen. Phew!

We are also sending home our Key Person bags. These have lots of information on your child's key person and will help you get to know your child's new special person at nursery! The staff have chosen their favourite book for you to read, you can find out about their hobbies and chat to your children about nursery at home, we are sure you will find them exciting to look at! Can we please ask you return them promptly with the contents so we can share them with other families.

Could we politely remind parents of the one-way gate system, to provide nappies and wipes, and to provide a bag with a change of clothes every time your child comes to play. Please label all clothes, coats and shoes so we can return any mislaid items promptly. Thank you



Learning objectives in Bluebell Room this term....

A **warm welcome** to all of the children in the Bluebell Room who have settled in so well. The children have come in happily and ready to play and explore their environment, we know many of them have been very excited to begin in their big pre-school room. We are helping the children to settle in and be familiar with the routine by talking to them about what we are going to do and the activities that are taking place and sharing our daily routine board.

We will be giving out Key Person bags out to families who can read information about their child's keyworker and their favourite story. They are helpful in knowing your Key Person and taking nursery home with you. Please can we ask they are returned the next day so that we can share them with others.

Each week we will be focusing on a number of the week, sound of the week and shape of the week. The children will be learning about and participating in activities relating to this in keyworker group time which takes place daily. Please can parents encourage the children to look for objects relating to that weeks learning and to send in photos of what they have found by email or on Parent Link so that we can extend their learning at home. The children also love to share their items with each other and it really promotes confidence. This terms weekly details have been shared via email and are on the door.

We will also be looking at a range of books this term and learning about different texts, languages and discussing ideas and thoughts of **"what might happen next?"**

We are starting this term with "All About Me" topic. We are talking about where we live and who lives in our house, drawing family portraits and sharing our special experiences. Please can we ask parents to send in family pictures so we can update our family connections area, this will help children to settle in and feel confident to talk about their special people. The children have also been leading their learning using the home corner and babies. They have been changing the nappies, feeding the babies, giving lots of cuddles and being very kind. They have even put a request form into the office for more items such as a potty, high chair and bottles!

We will then be having **'Space Week'** which is always super exciting! We will be flying out into space in our nursery rocket, looking for the different planets and finding out more about our planet - Earth. We will discuss what space looks like and looking out for aliens that might be lurking about! There are lots of stories, we will be counting how many eyes our aliens have and the shapes of the windows on the rockets and looking at colours of the planets. We will also be measuring the sizes of the planets, small to big, little to large and measuring the distances between the planets and which ones are closest to us and furthest away and encouraging lots of mathematical language.

Later in the term the children will be learning how to stay safe in **fire safety week**. We know that it is important to understand which people help us and we start with finding out what the fire people do and the special number to call for help. We always have a fire alarm in the start of term so we can practice safely leaving the building. We are also going to be taking part in World Food Day where we will be talking about a variety of food from different countries and sampling a range of cuisines. Yum! As the seasons change and we see signs of **Autumn**, we will spend time in our outdoor environment, taking the children for walks in the grounds and collecting leaves and sticks whilst discussing the changes of the trees and the weather. Please make sure that your child has shoes that are suitable for lots of outdoor play.



Staff updates

We have such a wonderful team of staff – every one of them are exemplary role-models and teachers to your children. We are extremely lucky to have each one of them and the unique skills they all bring.

Lucie Barron has returned from her maternity leave and we are delighted to have her back with us. Oli is full of laughter and we love his cheeky smiles! Welcome back Lucie.

A little update our other Shadwell Childcare new additions, Mason and Rory. As you can see they are both adorable and Lucy B and Lucy W are both doing well and enjoying motherhood, as we knew they would. We have been lucky to have lots of cuddles and we are receiving regular updates and photos to share their wonderful journey. Three very cute little boys!

Lots of Congratulations this newsletter!

Rakhi passed her level 3 childcare qualification earlier this year after a tremendous effort balancing work, family life with two children; we are immensely proud.

Emily H also passed her level 6 qualification. Again, after huge personal commitment whilst moving from the Shetland Isles, setting up a new home and starting a new job with us as Sunflower Room Leader. A real juggling act and a huge well done.

Charlotte passed her Primary Education Bachelors degree with a FIRST! We are absolutely thrilled for her and what a wonderful role model for her young daughter who helped her celebrate. Congratulations to you all, everyone at Shadwell Childcare is so very proud!

If that wasn't enough **Sara**, already highly qualified and alongside having 3 daughters to care for, has completed an additional childcare qualification; however she is now taking additional assessments to obtain a distinction. We will keep you updated!

Congratulations to you all, you are all amazing!

Training

We believe that staff knowledge is crucial to supporting the children's learning and well being. At Shadwell Childcare we are dedicated to empowering the staff through knowledge and training and this means actually doing what we will be asking the children to do so we fully understand the impact and effects. This summer we took part in a Movement and Play course. We spent a day learning about pushing, pulling, balance, using our arms, legs, lying on our back and being physical and the impact on a child's brain development. This course was very active and pushed the staff to their limits and we had lots of fun learning new ways to encourage physical development. We have ordered lots of new equipment to support this training and are looking forward to putting it all into practice!

We also had lots of training and attended several meetings to begin implementing the latest EYFS guidance. We will be sharing this with you at Parent Forums later this term.



Your staff team



Paula Wilson
Childcare Manager
Designated Safeguarding Lead



Holly Bream
Administrator



Claire Lewis
SENCo &
Childcare Professional

Bluebell team



Asha Parmar-Jones
Bluebell Room Leader
Safeguarding



Lucie Barron
Child Care Professional



Deryn Thethy
Child Care Professional



Clara Shurman-Kloss
Child Care Professional



Charlotte Whitehead
Child Care Professional



Emily Rourke
Child Care Professional

Sunflower Room



Emily Handley
Sunflower Room Leader
Safeguarding



Toni Pudsey
Child Care Professional



Sara Hall
Child Care Professional



Rakhi Singh
Child Care Professional



Sarah Murdoch
Child Care Professional



Hannah Parmenter
Child Care Professional

Bank staff / Students



Lynda Fuszard
Bank Staff Teacher



Megan Bradshaw
Lunch and OOSC assistant



Lucy Wiltshire
Child Care Professional
(Maternity leave)



Lucy Butterfield
Sunflower Room Leader
Early Years Professional
DSL
(Maternity leave)