

BALHAM NURSERY SCHOOL & CHILDREN'S CENTRE NEWSLETTER - SPRING 2 - 2017



What are the children learning and thinking about?

Children's current interests

Many children have become increasingly interested in the idea of design and planning, whether it is designing a construction using clipboards in the blocks or planning within imaginative play 'where the baddies are hiding' and making a map in the garden.

Artist in residence- Eloise, Artist Educator, continues to work in the nursery every Monday. Children have been working creatively with technology, including iPads and a projector exploring light and shadow as well as mark-making. For many children this is stimulating their storytelling, responding and reacting to each other's ideas. Do take the time to take a look at the folder and display board in the covered way to see what the children have been doing.

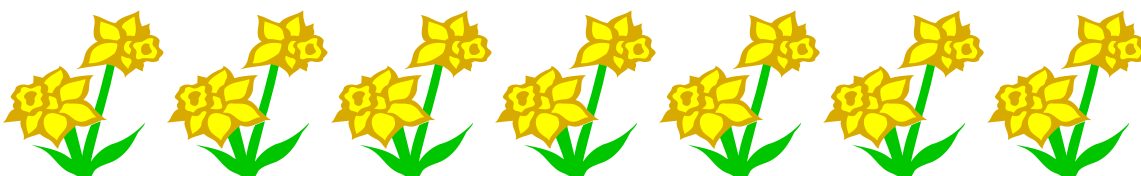
Displays- Children's interests and the work we do to support and extend learning is recorded through displays throughout the nursery. These are regularly updated so please do take some time to wander around the whole nursery and celebrate the range of experiences the children have been engaging in. In the covered way there is an updated display about being a Rights Respecting

School and each class has displays reflecting children's current interests.

Balham Book Day

Balham Book Day will take place on **Thursday 2nd March**. We ask children NOT to come dressed up as we know this can create a lot of work for parents and it can also result in many **superheroes** in school which is actually hard for the children to handle in a large group. All children will have the opportunity to have their face painted as a character from a book at nursery, please let us know if you do not wish your child to have their face painted. Staff will be appearing as a variety of characters too, even performing some traditional tales at story-time! Children will be able to work with a variety of books and materials and we will continue to support their interests in developing their own costumes, characters and story ideas.

If you have some free time to come in and read books with your child and a small group of children we would be very grateful. Please speak with your child's teacher to arrange a time.



LATENESS

The end of the school day finishes at 3:10pm

Please please please ensure that you collect your child on time and you leave the building promptly.

We do understand that from time to time everybody finds themselves held up and running late. If you know that you will be late please do give us a ring as this allows us to explain to your child what is happening and minimise their confusion and concern. It also has an impact on the time that the staff meet at the end of the day to discuss and plan for future activities.

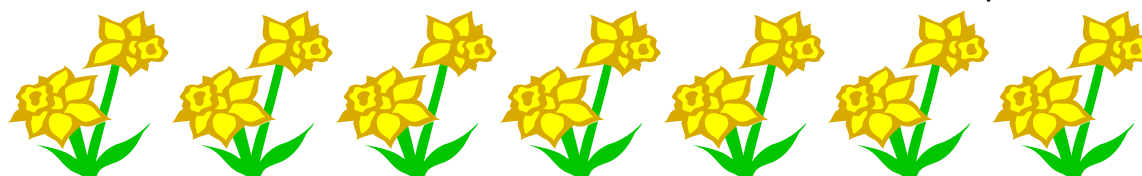
When you arrive please collect your child from reception where a member of staff will be supporting them.

Late arrivals - Please ensure that you are prompt when bringing your child at the beginning of their session. It is really important that your child comes to school on time everyday to minimise disruption and to encourage good school routines.

NURSERY PETS CAN YOU HELP?

We are looking for a holiday home for our lovely **Guinea pigs** Rio and Rosie as well as Jamie the **Tortoise** while we are closed over Easter.

If you are able to help out please speak with Hollie in Reception or a member of staff.



Sickness

We cannot stress too strongly that sick children must be kept at home please. A poorly child doesn't cope well with the bustle of the nursery and the spread of infection is significantly increased. We are sure everyone would recognise that this is something we would all want to avoid. What may not be quite so obvious is the major impact this has on the health of the entire staff team. This is something the school/centre community depends on completely, not only for 'bright eyed and bushy tailed' adults but also for the place to open every morning!

Please do not give your child Calpol or Nurofen before coming to Nursery – if they need this medication then they are probably not well enough to attend.

There appears to be quite a few 'bugs' around at the moment and so your understanding is much appreciated.

Parent/Teacher Conferences are going to be held the week of 20th March. Sign up sheets will be put up outside each class about two weeks before. Do please sign up to meet your child's class teacher (Nicola in Back Cass, Dee in Front Class and Fiona in the Garden Room) on one of these days. The school pays for supply teacher cover in order to release class teachers from the classroom so PLEASE, PLEASE let Reception know if you are unable to attend an appointment you have booked so that someone else can take your place and the cost is not wasted. Thank you.

Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers

Just a reminder that we are collecting the Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers. Please tell friends and family as this is a great

way of getting fun resources for the children. The collection box is in Reception – thank you.

How time flies!

Those of you with a child in school who will be 4 before 1st September this year, will have applied for a Primary School place and we will be saying a fond farewell at the end of this school year, in July. Wandsworth will be posting results of your application on 18th April. Please do speak with Emma, Nicola or your key person if you have any worries about your child's transfer to Primary School.

The Sun will be putting his hat on – so we need to too!

In anticipation of sun this is an opportunity for us to send a reminder about summer clothing for the next term! Please make sure your child wears enclosed shoes or sandals, not open-toed and has a hat for sunny days and that you have applied sun screen/sun block before you come to school. We will re-apply children's high factor sun screen at lunch time for those children staying all day. Please talk with your child's key person if you have any concerns.



Term Time - Children's Centre Activities

Parents of our Two Year Olds are currently attending a session run by our Educational Psychologist which involves developing understanding about their

child's behavior and different ways to encourage communication. They are also learning how their children learn through play.

Rise and Shine Stay and Play takes place every Wednesday morning from 9.30am and is a great session where under threes can play and learn through activities provided to meet their needs. Access to advice and support for Parents is available from Family Support; Speech and Language; Educational Psychologist; and on subjects such as oral health and emotional well-being.

Don't forget

- **Community Music Group** on Thursdays 3.30pm-4.15pm
- **Messy Play Session** on Friday mornings 9.30am-11am. This gets very busy and we save some places for identified families so please come early!!

Remember during the holidays this takes place at Balham Library.

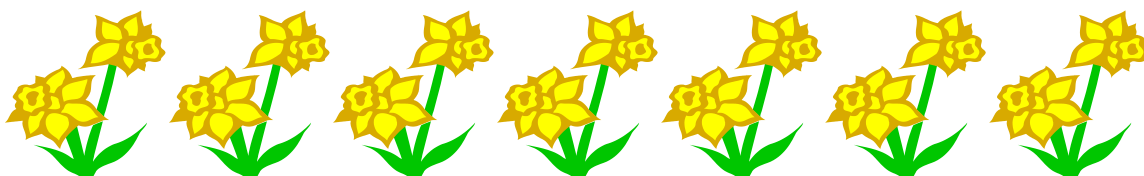
Please speak to Liz, Natasha or Paula for further information

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Photographer

The school photographer will be visiting the nursery this term to take individual photographs of the children. She will be attending both morning and afternoon sessions so that every child can have their photograph taken. Family photos can also be arranged through the school office. She also takes a photo of everyone together!

The date of this is still to be confirmed.



The last day of this current term is
Friday 31st March 2017.
Children return on **Wednesday 19th
April 2017.**

TERM DATES

	First Day	Last Day
Spring 2	Mon 20th Feb	Fri 31st Mar
Term Break	Mon 3 rd Apr	Tues 18 th Apr
Summer 1	Wed 19th Apr	Fri 26th May
Half Term	Mon 29 th May	Fri 2 nd Jun
Summer 2	Mon 5th Jun	Thurs 20th Jul

May Bank Holiday **Monday 1st May
2017.**

Staff Training Days **Tuesday 18th April
and Friday 21st July 2017.**

Please do make sure you check the
website regularly and follow us on Twitter
for the most up to date information

HAPPY EASTER!

