

Nursery Catch Up!

Autumn 2018



Our nursery session times are as follows;

Morning session 8.20am - 11.30am

Afternoon session 12.20pm - 3.30pm

Please remember to sign your child in and out of nursery. We politely ask all parents/carers to arrive **at least 5 minutes before** the end of each session to ensure all children exit the building safely by the above times.



Colinton has a dedicated and hardworking nursery team.

Nursery Teacher - Mrs Moir (full-time)

Early Years Practitioner - Mrs Donaldson

Early Years Practitioner - Mrs Thomson

(Both practitioners are part-time)

PSA (mornings) - Mrs Crouch

Headteacher - Mrs Brown

Acting PT/Early Years Lead - Miss Mitchell

Principal Teacher - Mr Morrison

Service Support Officer - Mr Wilson

On a day-to-day basis, other school staff visit us including administrative staff, Support for Learning and Pupil Support Assistants. Staff from other nurseries, Lorraine the Colinton librarian, Educational Psychologists and Speech Therapists also pop in to visit us. Throughout the year we also welcome other Colinton school pupils, high school pupils and college/university students.



- our snack money is £1 per week and can be paid through ParentPay termly
- please provide indoor shoes for your child and welly boots on rainy days
- please check your child's peg bag daily for letters, wet clothes, wonderful pieces of mark making work and art and craft work



Curriculum

Returning children are teaching our new friends the nursery rules and routine which help to keep us safe. We are learning to share resources, take turns and play with kind, gentle hands.

We are developing our fine motor skills through finger gym, malleable and sensory play. These learning opportunities help strengthen our fingers which will help us to trace/write our names.

We are experimenting with a variety of mark making materials including chalk, pen, paint and water. We are learning to recognise and identify our own names around the nursery.

We will be learning about Autumn.

We enjoy daily story sessions. If your child has a story book they enjoy, please let the staff know 😊.

Reminders

- please ensure that all contact details are kept up to date and inform the school office of any changes
- please make staff aware of any holidays or appointments that your child may have
- please telephone the school when your child is absent from nursery

0131 441 1946

Gym

Gym sessions for morning children are on **Tuesdays and Fridays** and we aim to be in the hall for **9am**. Afternoon children have gym on a **Friday** about **1pm**.

Please ensure your child is wearing suitable clothes and shoes for exercising on these days. It is helpful if your child has a pair of black gym shoes to change into.

Nursery Gates and Doors

Please remember to close the nursery gate when you enter or leave to ensure our children are always safe. We remind the children not to touch the gate **at all** and that it should only be opened and closed by adults. Always let a member of staff know if a child is unaccompanied at the door.

The nursery door entrance must be clear from children's toys as this is required for fire evacuation. Any bikes, buggies or scooters brought to nursery can be parked alongside the fence.

For Health & Safety reasons, we politely request that, prior to nursery sessions commencing, children and their siblings refrain from using any nursery playground equipment. Thank you.

Snack

Snack time is an enjoyable and important part of your child's nursery session. Over the course of the year, the children are given a wide variety of foods to choose from and experience. It is a time for discussing different food types, preparing food, practising safe hygiene and setting up snack names and equipment. Sitting with peers at the snack table is very much about building social skills.

Tooth brushing is routine to the children.



We are very keen for parents/carers to come for a 'Stay & Play' session. Please look out for the signs around the nursery entrance for details.

Group time

Throughout the week, your child will have opportunities to participate and learn in small group sessions with their keyworker. Your child's group is identified by the colour of star on their peg.

Mrs Moir - blue stars
Mrs Donaldson - green stars
Mrs Thomson - pink stars

Health

If your child has had a diarrhoea or vomiting illness, please keep them at home for 48 hours from last episode of diarrhoea or vomiting.

Parental Consultations / E-Learning Journals

Due to staff absence, parent consultations have been postponed until after the October break. Staff will let you know when to sign up for an appointment. Consultations are a valuable opportunity to discuss your child's progress and development and identifying their next learning steps. The nursery will be soon be offering Learning Story Folders through electronic online journals. Look out for a letter regarding this. Staff will be undergoing training in the coming weeks and an information session will delivered by Mrs Moir and Miss Mitchell prior to the e-journals launch.

Dates for your diary

- Term ends Friday 12th October 2018
- Monday 22nd October 2018, staff only day
- Tuesday 23rd October 2018, nursery re-opens

Let's Communicate! Engaging families in learning.

On the 'Let's Communicate' notice board in the cloakroom, you will now find a 'Question of the month' display. We are always keen to get feedback from our parents and carers so please do have a look at the display and write down a few words. Thanks!



The children (and staff) are continuing to learn Singalong. This is a sign supporting system based on signs from British Sign Language. It is used alongside (not in place of) other types of communication such as speech, facial expression or other systems such as objects of reference. Ask your child if they can remember the signs for please, thank you, choose, tidy up, toilet, waiting and friends.