



Kenilworth Children's Centre & Nursery School

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Headteacher/Head of Centre: Rachel Gillett

January 2012

Dear Parents

We have had a wonderful start to our Spring Term with seven new children joining us as January children. Our January children will be settling in this month and our children have been hugely helpful in supporting them and introducing them to our nursery. Please can we remind all parents to **collect promptly** as this is especially important when new children are settling in, particularly at the 2pm pick up when those children are waiting to begin their small group time. Thank you for your support in this matter.

CURRICULUM

Children have been exploring and investigating 'cold' and noticing change in experiences throughout nursery whether it be in the ice tray, making jellies or noticing weather changes. Rhyme has been the main focus of our literacy sessions and children have been noticing the different sounds that make up words.

BUILDING LEARNING POWER

Children will be expected to take their turn at all of these experiences, as is appropriate for their age and stage of development. It is important that you support your child as these new opportunities emerge in order that they approach them with curiosity, confidence and with a willingness to learn. You can do this by talking positively about these new experiences and showing genuine interest in what they have done.

PARENT CONSULTATIONS

Parent consultations are an opportunity to share the learning journey record that documents your child's experiences. They can also be a useful point to discuss any issues you may be concerned about or particular strengths you feel your child may have. A thoughts sheet will come home the week before consultations for you to return with ideas about what you may like to discuss. **Each meeting will last for 10 minutes.** Consultations will take place on:

Monday 6th February between 1 pm and 3 pm – Mrs Reeder's Family Group

Tuesday 7th February between 1 pm and 3 pm – Mrs Scholes' Family Group

Wednesday 8th February between 1 pm and 3 pm – Mrs Thomas' Family Group

Thursday 9th February between 1 pm and 3 pm – Mrs Bonser's Family Group and

Thursday 9th February between 6 pm and 8 pm – By appointment for parents unable to attend during the day.

If you would like to book a time for your parent consultation please sign up to the consultation sheets in the reception area on the classroom window. Remember to book a session with your child's Family Group Leader.

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT RESEARCH PROJECT

As part of the National Training Centre work we have decided to take part in some research to look at how involved in their children's learning parents feel. We hope this will assist you more and consider what we offer from your perspective.

When you arrive for your parents meeting we will also be asking you if you would help us by completing a parent assessment tool that documents how involved in your child's learning you felt at the beginning of the year now, and we will ask you to revisit the same survey in July. Please allow an extra 5 or 10 minutes to your meeting time to complete the survey for us so that we may strive to continually improve our practice.

DATES FOR DIARY & HOLIDAY DATES P.T.O.





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PARENT VOLUNTEERS

A special thank you to Ash's mum, Lucy, Henry's Mum, Sarah who have been volunteering each Thursday to support Forest School. Ruby's mum, Tabitha has joined in to help also this term. We are also grateful to Caroline from Nurture Nursery who has volunteered her time.

Thanks also to the parents who volunteered their time to support food preparation at the Christmas parties. We have had lovely feedback from both children and their parents about this experience.

If you feel you have skills to offer and wish to volunteer to spend a day with us to share your knowledge, please discuss this with a member of the Nursery team.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

PHOTOGRAPH DAY – WEDNESDAY 28th MARCH

Class Photograph Day for children in the Main Nursery, with family and individual photographs taking place between 11.30 am and 1.00 pm

STAFF TRAINING DAYS

Monday 16th April – Whole Centre Training Day. Main Nursery & Nurture Nursery will be closed, and no Children's Centre family activities will be taking place.

Tuesday 17th April – Teacher Training Day – Main Nursery and Nurture will be closed. All other services will be on as scheduled.

HOLIDAY DATES

SPRING HALF TERM HOLIDAY – MONDAY 13th FEBRUARY TO FRIDAY 17th FEBRUARY INCLUSIVE

EASTER HOLIDAYS – MONDAY 2ND APRIL TO FRIDAY 13TH APRIL INCLUSIVE

(School re-Opens Wednesday 18th April)

HALF TERM HOLIDAY – MONDAY 4th JUNE TO FRIDAY 8TH JUNE INCLUSIVE

SCHOOL FINISHES FOR SUMMER ON FRIDAY 20th JULY

VOUCHER SCHEMES

We have been registering with some companies who provide Childcare vouchers. If you intend to purchase any Lunch Club provision or Extended Sessions with these schemes, please make sure that Jackie in the school office has the necessary information to hand in order register with the companies to claim the monies back. **Also, please ensure that you are filling in the Lunch Club & Extended Session forms in order that staff can have them on the relevant registers. Thank you.**

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS & GIFT AID

Thank you to everyone who has made a financial contribution to the school during last half term, your support in this way makes a huge difference and is very much appreciated. If you have not yet returned your Gift Aid Form, it is not too late to do so – simply complete the relevant details and return it to Jackie or Mary in the school office. (Voluntary Contributions reminder - £13 half-termly; £26 per term; £78 per annum)

If you have any questions or comments on any of the above please do not hesitate to talk to any of the staff or myself. Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Rachel Gillett
Headteacher/Head of Centre





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