



## February 2023 Newsletter

### Organisation



Carol is **The Manager of The Saplings Pre-School with overall responsibility**, Vicky is **The Seedlings Leader** and is responsible for 'Seedlings' and Clare is responsible for 'Acorns'. Zoe is our **Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) practitioner SENCo**.

Now that we have the luxury of a second room which is used for our under twos (Acorns) within a designated area of the room leaving a further area defined as Seedlings, we are able to separate some of our three year olds based on their cohort year. Currently we have far more three year olds than two year olds within Seedlings and we have adapted our planning to reflect the age range of children in the room. Our only restriction in the separation of children is for under twos who **MUST** have a designated area to themselves. It is an expectation of the framework to enable children to mix in other age groups including the ability of our under twos mixing with older children but not vice versa.

We have put transitions in place to ensure the children in Seedlings are ready to move into Saplings by having all meals within Saplings and some extra activities within the quiet room used for registration and circle times.

### 30 Hour Funding



If your child is 3 before 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 and you are eligible for 30 hours please log in to the HMRC website, make a claim and forward your 30 hour code to me before 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023. No late validations are accepted by Services for Young Children. Please ensure that you book the hours you require to ensure that we have availability for your request. Please, ensure that you check your HMRC website every couple of months and renew your 30 hour code before the end of each term. Failure to do so could result in you losing your eligibility for the next term. Anyone requiring additional hours please let me know.

### Learning Journey



If you haven't already done so, please return your child's profile asap so that we can continue to add observations to it.

### Health and Safety



**Food Reminder:** Please ensure your child does not bring nuts, chocolate or sweets in any form to pre-school. Please ensure that sausages, tomatoes, grapes and olives are chopped lengthways in half as these items are major choking hazards.

### General



**Gloves and Hats:** As we are now in winter please ensure that your child has gloves and a hat when appropriate. Please put gloves in their coat pockets or down sleeves so that they can find them.

**Please ensure your child has shoes/slippers they can manage themselves for inside.** Wellington boots should be provided for outdoor use and cannot be worn inside on wet days as they create a slipping hazard.

**Adverse Weather:** In the event of severe weather please check our website and Facebook for updates of opening hours.

### Planning

This half term we will look at:



New Year and Winter  
 Chinese New Year – 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2023  
 Animals around the World  
 Valentine's Day – 14<sup>th</sup> February  
 St David's Day – Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March  
 World Book Day – Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March  
 Dinosaurs & Ice Age



As you are all aware we had an Ofsted Inspection on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January, the report for which will be distributed to you once it has been approved.

### Dates for Diary



**Half Term** Monday 13<sup>th</sup>–Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February  
**End of Term** Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023  
**Summer Term** Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023

A calendar of opening times can be found on our web site [www.saplingspreschool.co.uk](http://www.saplingspreschool.co.uk) under 'Our Week'. Carol and The Saplings' Pre-School Team

