



The Saplings Pre-School

Wednesday, 27 November 2024

Saplings/2024-2025/52

## November/December 2024 Newsletter

### Welcome



We would like to welcome Elaynna and Gabriella who have both joined our 'Acorns' area.

**Pre-School Structure** As a pre-school team we have had discussions as to how best to move children on from one room to another, keeping all children and babies as safe as possible and being able to provide opportunities to move them all forward with their learning and achievements particularly focusing on the three main areas within the EYFS. (Personal, Social and Emotional Development, Communication and Language and Physical Development.) In conclusion we have decided that our 'Acorns' room will return to 'Acorns' and 'Seedlings' with a view to moving children into the bigger room 'Saplings' at about 2.5 years. The main room will accommodate 'Saplings' and 'Seedlings' and we will move children when we think they are ready.

### Lunches



We have noticed that many children are supplied with an overwhelming number of items for their lunch. Please try to provide 4 to 5 items or reduce the quantity of an item if you wish to provide more variety.

### Organisation



Carol is **The Manager of The Saplings Pre-School with overall responsibility**, Chloe is responsible in Carol's absence. Vicky is the pre-school **Supervisor**, Clare is the **'Seedlings Leader'** responsible for our two year olds and Louise is the **'Acorns Leader'** responsible for our under twos.

**Senior staff are here to help you and for information the following members of staff should be approached for the following:** Designated Lead Safeguard: Carol, Deputy Safeguard: Chloe, **Special Educational Needs:** Zoe, **Health and Safety:** Carol and **Inclusion (Equality and Diversity), Bereavement:** Carol.

### Education



#### Starting School in September 2025: If

your child will be 4 years old between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024 and 31 August 2025, that is, born between 1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021, they will be entitled to start school in September 2025. You can apply online for a place from **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November** until the deadline of **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2025**.

[www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/admissions](http://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/admissions)

Online notifications of your allocated place is 16<sup>th</sup> April 2025, waiting list established 30<sup>th</sup> April.

### General



**Gloves and Hats:** As the weather is now getting colder, please ensure that your child has mittens/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 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

### Learning Journey



Your Child's Profile will be sent home this week.

Please add photos of some outings that you have been on with your child and/or achievements and family photos. If you wish to print some we can add them for you.

### Slippers/Indoor shoes



Now that the weather is beginning to turn could I please remind those of you with children/babies in Acorns/Seedlings room that they will require slippers/indoor shoes as well as outdoor shoes/wellies.

The Saplings Pre-School,  
c/o Burnham Copse Primary School,  
Newchurch Road, Tadley, Hampshire RG26 4HN

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#### Day Closure



**The Pre-School will be CLOSED for the day on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December.**

Sadly, one of our previous parents passed away last Tuesday and many of us will be attending her funeral on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December.

Please accept our apologies for the late notice but hopefully you will understand. Wherever possible if your child would normally attend on a Thursday, we will offer an alternative date for you.

#### Health and Safety



**Hazards of Autumn** As you will have noticed we are already experiencing the hazards of Autumn. Berries and leaves are covering the ground and we will do our best to clear these as often as possible. The trees are variations of Sorbus which although produce red berries, are harmless as has been confirmed by Hampshire County Council. In addition to these we have an Arbutus which is equally safe.

As a matter of good practice, we talk to the children and discourage them from playing with red berries.

#### Dates for Diary



**Photographer** Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December from 8am, individual photos, family photos, photos with siblings. Open to all of our families even if your child doesn't attend on a Tuesday.

**Day Closure** Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December

**Saplings Room Christmas Party** Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December

**Autumn Term 2024** last day Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2024

**Christmas Post Box** last collection in pre-school Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December.

**Spring Term** first day of Spring Term is Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025

A calendar of opening times can be found on our web site [www.saplingspreschool.co.uk](http://www.saplingspreschool.co.uk) under 'Our Week'.

#### Planning



Within Saplings/Seedlings we have been talking about celebrations. Thank you to Kabir's mum who came in and talked to the children about Diwali the festival of light.

Following this we celebrated Bonfire Night and reinforced the importance of safety when handling fireworks. Then Remembrance Sunday and Children in Need.

We have recently talked about hibernation and why some animals sleep throughout the autumn and winter months.

This week we are looking at Scotland and St Andrew's Day. The children have produced a painting of their own tartan, made thistles and will be making Scottie dogs, Nessie, flags and shortbread.

We will then talk about Christmas. Please join us in wearing your Christmas jumpers and tops during December.



We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year for 2025.

*Carol and The Saplings' Pre-School Team*

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