

Summer 1 Newsletter

Now that we are cooking every day in nursery, the children have shown a great interest to learning where food comes from. This half term we will be exploring all things associated with food/growing plants/cooking. We have already planted spring bulbs, which the children enjoyed watching grow. Then we made some cress hair styles, which are making their way home. We are now concentrating on fruit and vegetables. The children will be peeling, chopping and cooking a variety of fruit and veg to make our snacks and lunches. We will be visiting our local greengrocers to try and recreate a shop in our role play area. This will allow us to learn more about weighing and counting, we will introduce money and our wider environments to complement these activities. We will be getting creative with the fruit & veg to make some pictures in our craft area. Healthy living will also run alongside our planned topics, together we will learn about making healthy choices and how the food we eat will give us energy to stay healthy and active. We will carry out lots of discussions categorising foods – by creating a board under the headings fruit – vegetables – dairy – bread/cereal – meat, etc. and each meal time will place the items we are eating into the right categories.

We will introduce the children to science.

We will ask the children what needs to be done before eating or handling food i.e. wash hands. We will then carry out some experiments to identify the best methods of ensuring our hands are washed properly. We will discuss germs and how they can affect our bodies making us ill and how to prevent this by eating a good diet and washing our hands regularly.

We will watch how food changes when we cook them i.e. changing a liquid to a solid, how raw carrots are a different texture to cooked. Taking learning opportunities as they arise – working with food is so diverse and we often find some of the best learning comes from the children questioning why we do things or why things happens.

Hopefully we are now due some warmer weather and we will be spending even more time outdoors, please can you ensure the children have suitable footwear (preferably trainer type) to be wearing out and about. We do plan to go for lots of nature walks looking at things of interest and getting to know our community. We also plan on lots of picnic lunches – when the weather permits us to do so. One of our first ports of call will be the community orchard, so we can sit amongst the fruit trees to eat our lunch. If safe to do so, we may cross via the stepping stones; therefore suitable sturdy footwear will be most beneficial.

Can we also ask that the children have a sun hat at nursery every day and that sun cream has been applied?

We are still collecting items for junk modeling. We especially would like any unusual items, which you would normally throw away. Please place in the bin provided. **Thank you.**

Week beginning 20th May Parental Pop-ins – This is your final opportunity before many start school, to come and speak face to face with your child's keyworker and find out how your child is progressing with their school readiness. It's a great time to discuss any concerns and ensure we are working together to help our young children thrive. Where possible it would be good to hold these meetings in nursery around our working hours, but other arrangements can be made to meet your family needs.

20th – 24th May National walk to school (nursery) week – This comes at a perfect time to coincide with our topic. We know it's simply not viable for you all to walk to nursery, so we will planning activities around road safety and hazards to be aware of while we are on outings and walks at nursery or with our families.

Future Planned Events – Party in the Park – We have a provisional date **Wednesday 12th June** for our annual gathering at Ovingham Park. Please mark it on your calendars – more information to follow.

May Day – Nursery will be closed on **Monday 6th May 2024**

Half Term – Nursery closes on the **Friday 24th May** and re-opens **Monday 3rd June 2024**

Elaine Punton (Nursery Manager)