

Banbury School Day Nursery Newsletter

6th December 2022

DATES OF NURSERY CLOSURE IN 2022

We are closed:

16th December 2022 - Last day of term before Christmas, we will close at 5.30pm

Nursery will re-open Tuesday 3rd January 2023



Next Friday 16th December is the last day of term and we will close at normal time (5:30pm); we will then re-open on Tuesday 3rd January 2023 at normal time (8:00am). We are closed Monday 2nd January due to the bank holiday.

For the last week of term (December 12th-16th), we will be celebrating Christmas so please feel free to dress your child in Christmas clothes throughout the week, the staff at nursery will also be dressing up during this week.

For these next two weeks the children in all of the rooms will be exploring all things Christmas; we are doing lots of Christmas craft activities, reading Christmas stories and listening to Christmas music. **Please let us know if your child is not going to be in over the next 2 weeks, especially the last week of term as they will be bringing home christmas crafts, gifts and presents they have made.**

A polite request that children please wear old clothes at nursery or clothes that you are happy to get dirty, as we do a lot of craft

activities and sometimes cannot stop the children getting to the glue or paint before aprons are being put on. We want all the children to be given the opportunity to explore the activities, have fun and get messy if they want to.

Another request, especially to the preschool parents, please encourage your child not to wear jewellery into nursery - especially beaded bracelets or necklaces - as these may easily fall apart and the beads pose a choking hazard if they are dropped on the floor.

Also please try to encourage your child to not bring toys into the nursery, or if they really want to or it is a comfort toy please encourage them to leave in their bookbags before coming into the room. We ask this due to the risk of them getting lost easily, for example other children picking them up if they are brought into the room, or them getting forgotten at the end of the day.

Library books/sets

If your child has borrowed books from the library, please remember to bring them back a week after your child has brought them home, this is to allow another child to have a turn and take a set home.

Thank you very much to the parents who are exploring the sets with their child at home, we really enjoy seeing the photos and reading what books they liked. If your child still has a set of books at home please could they be returned to nursery **before the end of term**.

Home Start

Thank you to the parents who have made a donation for our fundraising for Homestart, we are still collecting and raising money for this. If you missed this in the last newsletter:

Home-Start Banbury, Bicester and Chipping Norton is looking for four donors, businesses or companies to raise £500 each to go towards helping the charity offer a vital lifeline to struggling families.

The charity is supported by the Four Acre Trust which will match donations of £500 or more, meaning every donation is doubled and more support will go towards helping families with a wide range of issues, including financial worries to bereavement, postnatal depression, isolation, domestic abuse and more.

Nursery would like to support this if possible and become one of the donors, if we raise £500 it will be matched by the Four Acre Trust as mentioned above.

We have 135 children attending nursery so if every child donated £2 along with every member of staff donating £2, Andrea will then match this from the nursery as a sponsor. We would be very grateful for the support in helping us to reach our total to make the sponsorship.

If you would like to find out any more information on the work that Home Smart does or the support they offer to young children and their families, you can find that here:

<https://home-startbanbury.org.uk/>.

Spare clothes

Please remember to pack spare clothes in your child's bookbag in case they have any accidents; also if your child has come home wearing nursery clothes after a change, please can you bring them

back to the nursery and pass them on to a member of staff so we can put them back in our bathrooms.

Thank you to those who have donated spare clothes, **we are particularly in need of trousers aged 3+ years, for both boys and girls.** If anyone is able to donate these that would be greatly appreciated.

Food bank

Thank you also to the families who have supported our food bank appeal, Lorraine has now taken our collection of donations down to the food bank for them to pass on to families in need. We are very pleased with the amount we were able to donate and are very thankful to those of you who were able to help us.



Session times

If your child is booked in for a full day, this is from 8am-5:30pm, please do not drop your child off before 8am (unless an early drop off has been pre-discussed with Andrea or a senior member of

staff). However, some children's funding means their sessions begin from 8:30am; if you are unsure if this applies to you, please ask a member of staff or email Andrea/Aaron who will be happy to help. Also we understand sometimes there may be unavoidable delays due to traffic but please try to collect your child by 5:30pm (again, unless a later pick up has already been discussed and approved). If you are running late and think you may not arrive by 5:30pm please ring the nursery to let us know to ensure there is a member of staff available to look after your child.

Both an early drop off and/or late collection fee apply and will be charged if your child is at nursery out of their booked session times. If your child does a short day please ensure they have been collected by the end of their session (which may be either 2:30pm, 2:45pm or 3:30pm depending on their funding and agreed hours), if they are collected later or after their session has finished you will also be charged the late fee.

School applications

A reminder to our preschool parents whose children will be going to school in September 2023 - *if your child was born between 1 September 2018 and 31 August 2019 (inclusive)* - that primary school applications are now open. We encourage you to get your choices registered as soon as possible and before the deadline to stand the best chance of getting your first choice school.

The deadline/last day for applications is **15 January 2023**.

To make your application online, please visit this website:

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/schools/apply-school-place/reception-applications/make-application>.

Other useful links and resources

Oxfordshire's Early Help Guide for Families:

Support if you are concerned about your child's health, development or other factors such as money, housing or domestic abuse -

<https://www.oscb.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Oxfordshires-Early-Help-Guide-for-families-leaflet.pdf>.

Boogie Mites - New App

There is a new opportunity for parents in Oxfordshire to trial Boogie Mites new app during the development stage.

They are launching a brand new app that you can use with your children at home to support their early language and literacy.

The final app will contain 66 original Boogie Mites songs, split across three categories: "Musical Poems", "Fun Phonics", and "Topical Tunes".

From this month, you will get FREE access to test the early app content, in exchange for your feedback so that we can continue developing in time for a full launch in early 2023. If you'd like to be involved in this exciting new project, sign up and find more information here:

<https://www.boogiemites.co.uk/happy-vibes-dancing-feet-and-brilliant-brains/>.

Foundation Years vodcast: Top Tips to improve the Home Learning Environment -

<https://foundationyears.org.uk/2022/11/foundation-years-vodcast-top-tips-to-improve-the-home-learning-environment/>.