

The Orchard Nursery

Updates and Reminders

JANUARY 2024



OUR NEW EMAIL ADDRESS IS - theorchardnursery@plymouthcast.com
www.theorchardneighbourhoodnursery.co.uk

FOR THE DIARY:

- Half term: 12th Feb – 16th Feb
(Nursery closed for funded children unless your child attends all year round or attends on the funded stretched offer)
- Last day of term for funded children – Thursday 28th March
- Return for summer term - Monday 15th April
- Good Friday 29th March – **Nursery Closed**
- Easter Monday 1st April – **Nursery Closed**
- World Book Day – Thursday 7th March 2023



Welcome back....

Welcome to The Orchard Nursery's monthly Newsletter.

We hope you enjoyed your Christmas and New Year celebrations. The children thoroughly enjoyed coming together with their families to sing some Christmas songs and are still asking to sing the songs this week!

We'd like to offer an extra special "Orchard" welcome to all our new children that have started with us. We are already seeing them settle down into their new routines and making relationships with their peers.

Please look out for our monthly updates and reminders via email and please like our Facebook page, as we often put recent activities and events coming up. Please don't forget

to check eyLog (online learning journey) via email notifications and download the latest eyLog app. We also love seeing observations from home or at the local park.

Just click on new observation, take a photo and send through eyLog.

IMPORTANT - FINAL REMINDER...

DEADLINE IS MONDAY!
DON'T DELAY, APPLY TODAY!

Was your child born between 1st Sept 2019 and 31st August 2020?

You need to apply for your chosen school by:-

Creating an account online and submitting an online admissions form or downloading a paper form.

If you live in Bournemouth, Poole or Christchurch click on the link below to apply online.

[BCP SCHOOL APPLICATION](#) Go to 'apply online' or 'download our application'

If you live under Dorset Council, click on the link below to apply.

[DORSET SCHOOL APPLICATION](#)

Adverse Weather Conditions

As the weather can become unpredictable at this time of year, arrangements need to be in place to cope with sudden snowfall or severe weather that may prevent us from getting to nursery safely.

Please be aware that the closure will be announced on Heart FM radio. If Christ the King school is closed the nursery will also close. We will email parents and it will be on our Facebook page. You will not be charged if the nursery is closed.

New Hard Flooring

As you are aware, in-between the Christmas and New Year period we had new hard flooring laid throughout the apple and pear room. We wanted to show you how lovely it looks. We are so pleased with it and would like to thank **Quality Carpets and Flooring** for their hard work to get it all done in time for the children to return.



The Orchard Nursery

Updates and Reminders

JANUARY 2024 Continued.....

Teeth Brushing advice...

At The Orchard Nursery we promote “good oral health of children” which has been introduced following research by Public Health England that suggests that 1 in 5 children aged 5, have experienced tooth decay.

The aim of the new requirement is to reduce tooth decay in children and associated hospital admissions, since it is the most common reason for children aged 6 to 10 to be admitted to hospital to have teeth removed.

We encourage good oral health in the following ways:

- Talking to children about the effects of eating too many sweet things
- Promoting regular tooth brushing – twice a day for 2 minutes using a fluoride toothpaste
- Encouraging children to visit the dentist regularly (twice a year is recommended)
- Encouraging parents to promote good oral health at home
- Read books about going to the dentist and promote activities relating to oral health
- Our curriculum has been adapted to enhance good oral health through a story based approach to teaching and learning this subject.

Please follow the link below for guidance on brushing your babies teeth.

[NHS- Looking after your babies teeth](#)

[NHS - Looking after your child's teeth](#)

Nursery Holiday Dates for 2023 - 2024

Term time Only children

Autumn term	4 September 2023 to 15 December 2023
Half term	23 October 2023 to 27 October 2023
Christmas holiday	18 December 2023 to 5 January 2024
Spring term	8 January 2024 to 29 March 2024
Half term	12 February 2024 to 16 February 2024
Easter holiday	1 April 2024 to 12 April 2024
Summer term	15 April 2024 to 19 July 2024
Half term	27 May 2024 to 31 May 2024
Summer holiday	From 22 July 2024

All Year round and Stretch Funded Children

Autumn term	4 September 2023 to 22 December 2023
Christmas Closure	25 December to 1 January 2024
Spring term	2 January 2024 to 29 March 2024
Summer term	1 April 2024 to 2 September 2024

Bank holiday's (Nursery Closed)

- Christmas Day: 25 December
- Boxing Day: 26 December
- New Year's Day: 1 January
- Good Friday: 29 March
- Easter Monday: 1 April
- May Day bank holiday: 6 May
- Spring bank holiday: 27 May
- Summer bank holiday: 26 August.

Childcare funding information for parents

Parents and carers can find information on all the childcare funding options by visiting the [BCP Council Family Information Directory](#) and the government's [Childcare Choices website](#).

The Family Information Service advisors are available to support parents with childcare funding enquiries. Call 01202 093131 or email familyinformation@bcpcouncil.gov.uk.

The Portal for eligible working parents of 2-year-olds is now open. The deadline for applying to receive funding from 1st April is **31st March 2024**. We recommend you apply in good time and please inform us of the eligibility code.

As a Nursery, we are still waiting for more information from the Local Authority before we can review our charging scheme for additional services, food etc., and hope to be able to update you by 1st March 2024.

Childcare
Choices