A close up of a sign

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Autumn 2025 Newsletter

Dear Parents,

I hope you are all having a good summer so far, although Autumn is in the air.

We are really looking forward to welcoming all the children when we return on Monday 8th September.

If you need to change any days/sessions for your child, then please let me know as soon as possible, thank you.

To all the new parents, we use the side gate as our main entrance and exit, where parents/carers/children can wait safely in the gated outside nursery play area until a member of the nursery staff opens the gate at the specified opening times. Please remember that on the notice board situated by the side gate there is a doorbell as well as up to date news and information for your interest.

**Staff News**

At the end of the Summer Term we said goodbye to Emily Williams who left after 2 years of being a bank member of staff. We wish her the very best of luck in her new job as a Teacher Assistant.

**Fundraising Committee**

Due to their children leaving to go on to Reception Class, we said goodbye to two of our fundraising committee members, Alex Billings and Kirsty Parton. They had been part of our fantastic fundraising team raising much needed funds for the nursery, for which we are extremely grateful. The money raised from the events they helped organise and run had enabled us to pay for things like the refurbishment of the nursery children’s bathroom and

new resources for the children. However, I am extremely happy to say that Alex has offered to once again organise (along with Honor Coates) the nursery Christmas Market. This was such a huge success last year thanks to Alex and we are so grateful that she will be on board again this year.

If you are interested in getting involved in fundraising ventures to help raise money for the nursery, please contact me and I will pass your details to the fundraising committee. We truly rely on money raised to purchase valuable resources for our nursery and the children.

**Toys From Home**

Please may we kindly ask that children do not bring in toys from home when they come to nursery. This is to avoid unnecessary distress to the child should their toy be accidentally broken or lost. If your child really cannot leave home without a toy, we will have a special box at nursery for home toys to live in whilst they are at nursery. However, children who are new to nursery and in their settling in period, we appreciate that they can often benefit from the comfort of a familiar object such as a favourite teddy or comforter.

**Term Dates 2025/2026**

I am attaching the term dates for 2025/2026 for your information.

**2025/2026 Funding Forms**

When we return, I will be handing out funding forms for those that are eligible for FEET, Working Parents Entitlement for Two Year Olds (15 hours or 30 hours), free funded childcare for 3 and 4 year olds (15 hours and working parent 30 hours a week). I would very much appreciate it if these could be completed, signed and returned to me as soon as possible. Thank you.

**Invoices**

Invoices will be generated and sent via the parent app, Blossom. Please note that we do not accept cash payments, I am sorry for any inconvenience this may cause. The preferred method of payment is bank transfer via online banking, details will be on the app. Invoices can be paid weekly, monthly or termly as long as final payment is received by the last day of the term. Invoices will be sent the second week of the term to allow for any changes to sessions that may happen during the first week.

**Diary Dates**

**Amy Blackwood Photography – Monday 6th October**

We are happy to say that for the third year we have professional photographer, Amy Blackwood, coming to our nursery on Monday 6th October to take photographs of each nursery child.  Parents will then have different package options that they will be able to purchase, including digital copies, various sized hard copies (with or without mounts), key rings and/or a fridge magnet.

10% of every purchase will be donated to Chiddingfold Village Nursery School, so not only will you be buying gorgeous photos of your child - speaking by experience us grandparents love a photo of their grandchild for Christmas - you will also be supporting the nursery.

If your child does not attend nursery on a Monday and you would like your child to have their photograph taken, then please come to nursery promptly for 9am (please let me know so we have an idea of numbers).  Amy will take photographs of these children first, so we do ask parents/carers to stay here during that time. This invite is also extended to those children who have not yet started at nursery. Obviously, if your child does attend on a Monday, it will be just a normal drop off for you. A reminder will be sent nearer the time.

**Children In Need – Friday 14th November**

During the week commencing Monday 10th November we will be raising money for this very worthwhile cause. BBC Children in Need is a charity that provides grants and funding to projects based in the UK that have the aim of helping disadvantaged children and young people. More details nearer the time.

**Monday 24th November – ‘Zoom!’ Pied Piper Theatre Production**

We are very excited to be once again welcoming the Pied Piper Theatre Company to perform their production ‘Zoom!’ –

“*Molly knows everything about space. All the planets and their moons; even the number of Saturn’s rings. EVERYTHING! Molly is definitely, absolutely going to be an astronaut when she grows up. But when, one wintry night, Molly meets a visitor from outer space she realises she still has a lot to learn about looking after our very own planet, Earth*.”

ʻZoom!ʼ is a play for children aged 3-8 years with music, songs and puppetry. A gentle introduction for young children into ways they can help to protect their environment.

All nursery children are invited to watch this show. If your child does not usually come to nursery on a Monday and you would like them to watch the show, please drop them off at nursery promptly at 9:45am (10am start).  The performance is about 50 minutes long so please collect your child at 10:50am – obviously this collection time is for those children who do not attend nursery on a Monday.  For those children who do attend on a Monday it will be normal collection times. A reminder will be sent nearer the time.

**Sunday 30th November – Nursery Christmas Market**

What better way to kick start the Christmas festivities. Lots of fun activities for children with such an amazing array of stalls. More details to follow.

**Tuesday 16th December – Reindeer Visit with Santa’s Sleigh and Helpers**

Shhhhh! Don’t tell the children.

As a special Christmas treat for the nursery children, we have booked a visit from two of Santa’s reindeer and his helpers and sleigh.

This is open for all nursery children.  If your child does not normally attend on a Tuesday, then you are more than welcome to drop your child off at nursery for an hour so they can experience this. More details to follow.

**Friday 19th December (last day of term) – Nursery Nativity**

Please note that this is not a 'normal' nursery day and that our last 'normal' nursery day will be Thursday 18th December. More details to follow.

**Operation Encompass**

Operation Encompass is a police and education partnership that enables schools to provide immediate support to children experiencing domestic abuse by sharing information about police-attended domestic abuse incidents with the child's school before the start of the next school day. Please see the attached letter along with this newsletter for further information.

**Other nursery news…**

* Over the summer holidays the nursery children’s bathroom has finally had much needed TLC. It was looking very tired and rough around the edges, so, with the money raised from fundraising this year we called in the professionals! The walls and ceilings have been painted and made good and new flooring has been laid (and not forgetting a new sign!)
* Also with money raised, we have replenished the play bark in the mud kitchen, so it is all ready for another year of making pies, cakes, potions, pizzas and other culinary surprises!

**Named Items**

* Please remember to bring your child with a named coat and a named bag with a change of clothes, and a named bottle of water. Also, if possible, a pair of named wellington boots as we will be doing excursions around our beautiful village as well as Forest School.

**Lunches**

* If your child will be staying for lunch, please put your child’s name clearly on the lunch bag/box as sometimes we may have more than one of the same designs.
* Please adhere to our healthy eating policy - no fizzy/sugary drinks (water only please) and no high-sugar treats. Please click on the links below for information and guidance.

<https://assets.ctfassets.net/dvmeh832nmjc/1xYCZwYWqIaiFfCyddkL32/1bceae0a6144c7e7d395852580c1a17f/A_healthy_balanced_diet_for_children.pdf>

[Portion\_sizes.pdf](https://assets.ctfassets.net/dvmeh832nmjc/1OEirRzB8F7iMahdZkWNDb/3e7eb82bf95af23b06266b7fced62575/Portion_sizes.pdf)

[Lunchbox ideas and recipes – Healthier Families - NHS](https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes/)

* Please note that we have a strict ‘No Nuts’ policy.
* If you include grapes in your child’s lunch, please make sure that they are cut lengthways. Popcorn is also not allowed due to being a choking hazard. Click on link for further information: -

<https://www.foundationyears.org.uk/2021/09/food-safety-advice-on-choking-hazards-in-settings/>

* If needed, please ensure that your child’s lunch box remains cool by including an ice pack as refrigerated storage is limited at the setting.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

We look forward to seeing you all very soon.

Leigh and the Nursery Team