



Oxclose Nursery Newsletter

Volume 20 April 16th 2021

Welcome Back after the Holidays

Welcome back to all our families and children. We have had a lovely week playing in the sunshine. The children have been settled and happy. We had a visit from a Newt and a Leech which was very exciting! The children screamed each time the newt swam towards the leech, it was like a live David Attenborough show! So if they mention a lizard at home...it was a newt! 😊

Polling Station

We have been informed that the nursery is being used as a polling station on Thursday 6th May 2021. Unfortunately, this means that we have to close the nursery to all children. We are very sorry for any inconvenience.

Hand Foot and Mouth

We have been informed about a case of Hand Foot and Mouth in nursery. This is a common childhood illness that is infectious to adults and children. More information can be found on <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/hand-foot-mouth-disease/>

Music from Brendon

This week has seen the return of Brendon, our popular music man. He can only attend morning sessions until half term due to other commitments. So, this half term he will work with the Red am, Green am and Yellow groups. After the half term he will work with the Red pm, Green pm and Blue groups. He will be working with the children to develop an understanding of rhythm and rhyming words. This early phonic work is important for our children who will be attending school in September.

Toys

Please refrain from letting your child bring toys into the nursery. They are not allowed to bring toys into nursery from home according to our Covid 19 risk assessment. The children become upset if they are confiscated until home time. They also create issues with other children who do not understand that they can not have the toy. Thank you for your help.

Donations

As we continue to enjoy the lovely sunshine, we would be very grateful for any old spices, herbs, pulses, rice, pasta and tea bags, to be used in our mud kitchen area. These items do not have to be in date.

DVDs

The breakfast and afterschool club has asked for any donations of unwanted dvds that are a U rating. These can be left with staff who can pass them on. Thank you.

Lateral Tests

Lateral tests are more widely available to test for asymptomatic cases of covid within the community. However, these tests are not considered to be sufficient if your child already has symptoms of covid. If your child has symptoms of covid, schools/nursery can only accept results from a PCR test. This is following guidance on the use of lateral flow tests in schools and nurseries. A negative test result must be received before your child can return to nursery if they have displayed symptoms of covid.

Coronavirus Testing

Parents are reminded that children **must not come** to nursery if their child *or anyone* in the household has symptoms of coronavirus.

If anyone in the setting has symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19): a high temperature, new and persistent cough or a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), however mild, they should self-isolate for at least 10 days from when their symptoms started and engage with NHS Track and Trace.

Please inform nursery immediately of any Covid test results. If your child receives a positive test result over the weekend, when nursery is closed, the best way to contact us would be via email:

oxclosenursery@durhamlearning.net

If we need to contact all parents quickly, this will be done via a text message through our parentpay text message service.

Therefore, if you have not already signed up to this, please contact the office if you need further login details or support.

If someone tests negative, and they feel well and **no longer have symptoms** similar to coronavirus (COVID-19), they can stop self-isolating. They could still have another virus, such as a cold or flu – in which case it is still best to avoid contact with other people until they are better.

Dates for the Diary

We are pleased to publish currently confirmed dates for the rest of the academic year and these can be seen in the table below. Naturally, we have planned other events such as trips and we will add these when we have final details.

Nursery closed for May Bank Holiday	Monday 3 rd May 2021
Nursery closed for Polling Station	Thursday 6 th May 2021
Nursery closes for Summer Half Term	Friday 28 th May 2021
Nursery reopens	Monday 7 th June 2021

D. Harrison

Executive Headteacher (Ox Close Federation)

J. Taylor

Head of Nursery