



Oxclose Nursery Newsletter

Volume 8 November 26th 2021

Returning Photographs

Phototronics have asked that photo preview cards must be **returned by Wednesday 1st December 2021 at the very latest**. So if you would like to purchase a photograph for your child in time for Christmas, please return your request slip by this date.

Telephones: Wednesday 1st December

Next week, we are having some work done to upgrade our telephone system, linking the existing School and Nursery phone lines. This will allow calls for Nursery to go directly to the school office and for school office staff to transfer calls to Nursery. Originally, this work was due to be done on Monday, when there are no children in school. Unfortunately, due to the availability of engineers, the work is now due to be done on Wednesday (1st December). This means that for that day the phone lines will be down. **On Wednesday, if you need to contact Nursery, please call 07898488159 or email us** as the internet should not be affected and we will keep a close eye on emails. I am going to speak to the parties involved again today and we will then confirm the contact arrangements for Wednesday on that morning via the School and Nursery websites and Facebook pages, while we will also send a text. Thank you for your understanding and I do apologise for the inconvenience, which is beyond our control.

Visits to See Santa Monday 6th December 2021

Thank you to all the parents who completed the Survey for Nursery. It was overwhelmingly positive and indicated that parents would be happy to resume trips, with covid restrictions in place. So, we have booked our first trip since Covid began to see Santa Claus. We will be visiting Santa one group at a time in Spennymoor town hall. The children will walk to the town hall with family helpers and staff. At the town hall there is an indoor corridor, where families can wait to see Santa. Masks must be worn inside by adults, and 2m social distancing will be in place. Children will see Santa one at a time. *Spennymoor council may review and alter covid measures closer to the date. Covid measures will be informed by local covid cases at the time.*

Please inform staff before the date if you would to help. We are required to have a ratio of 1adult to 4 children to safely leave the building.

The times to meet at nursery for our visit is as follows:

AM

Red, Green and Yellow group 15 hour children only: 10:30am

PM

Red Group 30 hour children + PM Red and Green 15 hour children: 12:30pm

Yellow Group + Green group 30 hour children: 13:00pm

Christmas Cards for Children

We have a little Christmas card tradition in nursery. Rather than children provide a card for all of their friends in nursery, we ask parents and children to get into the Christmas craft spirit, and make one card for everyone! We will display your cards with pride in nursery for everyone to see. So get out your glue sticks, scissors and have some fun!

Santa Trail Wednesday 15th December 2021

We are still restricted with allowing large groups of families into nursery with children. So, we thought it would be a fabulous opportunity to do something that the children would enjoy at Christmas time, rather than the traditional Nativity. We are planning to create a Christmas trail outside for the children to follow. There will be clues to solve and activities to do along the way. The clues will lead the children to find a very special, and magical guest...

Parents and carers will be welcome to join their child on the magical trail. The times will be as follows:

9:30am: Red Group 15 and 30 hour children.

10:30am: Green Group 15 and 30 hour children.

12:45pm: Yellow group and 15 hour pm children.

Miniature toiletries bottles

Once you have finished using all the lovely Christmas miniature bottles of toiletries over the Christmas holidays, would you please bring them into nursery to be used in our water play area. Thank you!

Library Books

Our nursery library service will resume on Thursday 2nd December 2021. Your child's keyworker will help your child to choose a library book on Thursday to take home for the weekend. We then ask that the books are returned on Monday.

Coronavirus

Please inform nursery immediately of any Covid test results via email.

Symptoms of Coronavirus

We would like to remind all parents/carers that it is our policy that any child who presents with **one or more COVID symptoms**, should book a **PCR COVID test**. If anyone tests positive for coronavirus in your household, you should also book a PCR test for your child, and inform us of the result.

Please note that Lateral flow tests are not accepted. Only PCR tests are considered to be a reliable indicator of covid infection status.

This is to safeguard all children and staff in nursery. Thank you for your continued support in this matter.

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.

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.

Nursery Closed for Inset Training	Monday 29 th November 2021
Visit to Santa Claus	Monday 6 th December 2021
Charity event: Christmas Jumper Day	Friday 10 th December 2021
Father Christmas Trail	Wednesday 15 th December 2021
Christmas Theatre Production in Nursery	Friday 17 th December 2021
Break up for Christmas Holidays	Friday 17 th December 2021
Nursery Reopens	Wednesday 5 th January 2022

Platinum Jubilee Celebration - Additional Day.

Schools have been requested to have an additional closure day to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. We have decided to take ours on **Friday 27th May 2022**. We wanted to give as much notice as possible and so thought that we would let you know now.

D. Harrison

Executive Headteacher (Ox Close Federation)

J. Taylor

Head of Nursery