



## Newsletter - Autumn 2024

Over the next few months, we have a whole host of fun days planned. Please make a note of these in your diary!



## Funding



Childcare  
**Choices**



 HM Government

15 funded hours for children 9 months + (please note, this is allocated the school term after your child turns 9 months).

15/30 funded hours for children 3 years + (please note this is allocated the school term after your child turns 3 years)

Any parent that thinks they should be eligible for the government funded free hours should visit the 'Childcare Choices' website and register to gain an eligibility code.

For more information on pricing of funded places, please contact the nursery office.

Over the coming weeks, children that we believe may be eligible for a funded place from January will receive a funding pack.

Please can we ask that all completed forms are returned to the nursery office by the return date given to ensure we are able to allocate funding to all eligible children after the Christmas holidays.

Please can we remind all parents that are currently in receipt of funding, your eligibility code needs to be re-validated every 3 months.

To revalidate your code, please log into your government account.

## Absence whilst claiming government funding

Any child in receipt of government funding (15 or 30 hours), need

to ensure that they notify us of any planned or unplanned absences from nursery. This is

to ensure our registers record your child's absence correctly and in line with requirements set out by Derby City and Derbyshire councils.



## Preparing for winter!!

It is now time to think about ensuring your child has appropriate winter clothing with them at all times when at nursery.

We would recommend that all children have wellie boots, a warm waterproof coat, puddle suit for younger children, hat, gloves and a scarf.

Please ensure that all items of clothing brought into nursery are clearly named.



## Contact details

To ensure we are able to contact all parents via email. Please can you ensure we have at least one current email address on file per child.



## Facebook page

Its lovely to see that lots of parents are following us on Facebook. This site is only used to promote the nursery and share special events with parents. Please look us up and give us a like, it's a great way of finding out what the children have been learning about during the day.



## Staff updates

### Melbourne site:

We welcome Millie to the Melbourne team. We hope you will be very happy working at Scallywags.

We congratulate Freya and Sara who has been awarded their 5-year service awards.



Congratulations to Jessica and Kerry who have been promoted to nursery assistant managers and Rebecca who has been promoted to nursery deputy manager.

### Chellaston site:

We welcome Ellie and Claire to the Chellaston team. We hope you will all be very happy working at Scallywags.

Chloe will be leaving in the middle of October to start her maternity leave. We wish you all the very best and look forward to hearing about the new arrival soon.

Congratulations to Linzey who has been awarded her 15-year service award.

## Drawing day – Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup>

### October

Drawing day is an opportunity for us all to celebrate drawing. It encourages creativity, self-expression, and cultural appreciation. Today the children will have the opportunity to draw with lots of different mediums: chalk / pencil / ink / charcoal/ paint to name a few. They will also have the opportunity to go into the garden to sketch in their natural environment.



## Whatever

### Next by Gill Murphy – Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October

Today the children will be reading the story 'Whatever Next' by Gill Murphy. They will be learning all about space rockets and the solar system and will be creating their own rocket to go on an adventure to the moon.



## Handwashing day – Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October

Today the children will be learning all about the importance of good handwashing with soap. The children will be learning about germs and will play the sticky germs game using glitter. The children will also have a go at making their own soap potions.



## Diwali - Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> October

Diwali is celebrated all over the world by millions of Hindus, Sikhs and Jains. It is known as the 'festival of lights' and is one of the most significant and colourful events in the religious calendar.

The light is a symbol of hope and of good triumphing over evil.

Today the children will be making lots of Diwali crafts and cooking and eating some delicious Diwali treats.



## Light and dark day – Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November

Today the children will be learning all about day and night. They will be playing with torches to create shadows and making a black and white firework picture.



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## Kindness day – Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November

Today we will be encouraging the children to consider how they have grown, and how they can help each other grow.

Growing together is about growing emotionally and finding ways to help each other.

The children will be talking about their emotions - what makes them and their friends happy or sad and they will be baking a kindness biscuit to enjoy at snack time.



## Road safety day – Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November

This week the children will be learning all about road safety. We will be covering walking on the pavement, identify the kerb, seeing traffic on the road, safety in the dark, walk not run and stop, look listen.

The children will be using the playground to recreate the road to practice these skills and older groups of children

will be leaving site to learn about the road and safety first hand.



## Christams jumper day – Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December

# Christmas JUMPER DAY



On Christmas Jumper Day, everybody is encouraged to bring their festive spirit to nursery in the form of their favourite Christmas jumper. We ask all children to wear a Christmas jumper they already own, decorate an existing jumper with festive decorations, or even knit their own!! We look forward to seeing your festive creations.

## Tree decoration day – Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December

Today the children will be learning all about the origin of the Christmas tree and will be making their own tree decorations to take home.



## Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January – Penguin Day

Today we will be thinking about one of the world's most fascinating creatures. There are 18 different species of penguins in the world, many of which are threatened by climate change. We will be using maps to find out where they live and what they enjoy doing. The children will be making their own penguin to take home.



## Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January - Winnie the Pooh day

Grab your favourite jar of honey and put on your best red t-shirt because we're celebrating our favourite yellow bear today. Today the children will be diving into all things Hundred Acre Wood filled with whimsy, friendship and of course, a little bit of honey.



## Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January - Chinese new year

Chinese New Year is the Chinese festival that celebrates the beginning of a new year on the traditional Chinese calendar. 2025 marks the year of the Snake. People born in the year of the Snake are believed to be intuitive, strategic, and intelligent. Throughout the day children will be



learning all about the iconic festival. They will be eating Chinese food, decorating and exchanging red envelopes and dancing with the Scallywags dragon.

## Christmas dates



- Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 2pm – Chellaston Pre-school Christmas play (more info to follow).
- Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December – Melbourne Zebra room Pre-school Christmas play at 2pm (more info to follow)
- Santa's sleigh around Chellaston and Melbourne dates and routes to follow
- Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 10am-11am - Santa visit Melbourne site
- Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December 10am-11am - Santa visit Chellaston site
- Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas dinner at both nursery sites

### Melbourne Parent Partnership Christmas Parties

*Parents are invited to come in and join their child for party games and a party tea.*

Lion Cubs: Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December 3pm-4.30pm

Monkeys: Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 3pm-4.30pm

Crocodiles: Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December 3pm-4.30pm

Zebras: Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December 3pm-4.30pm

### Chellaston Parent Partnership Christmas Parties

*Parents are invited to come in and join their child for party games and a party tea.*

Lion Cubs: Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December 3pm-4.30pm

Monkeys: Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December 3pm-4.30pm

Hippos: Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December 3pm-4.30pm

Crocodiles: Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 3pm-4.30pm

Pre-school: Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December 3pm-4.30pm

**If your child does not normally attend nursery on their room party day, you are more than welcome to come in with your child for their room party. Please let a member of staff know if you plan to attend the party.**

## Christmas opening times

- **Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December – Nursery closes at 3.00pm**
- **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> December 2024 to Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2025 – FULL SITE CLOSURE**
- **Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2025 – Re-open 7.30am – 6.00pm**