

Warminster Bright Beginnings Newsletter

September 2024

Manager Mrs Jo Webster
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Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back to nursery! I hope you have all had a lovely summer break, it's been a wonderful week seeing how much the children have grown and also welcoming all of our new starters. Over the holidays myself and the room leaders have been very busy preparing the classrooms and we have also built a wonderful new sensory room in our garden which has proven to be a success with the children so far. I would like to take this time to give a warm welcome and introduce our newest members of staff, we have Zoe and Aimie in The Woodlands, Grace in The Meadows and Louise in The Treetops – you will be receiving staff introduction forms to help familiarise yourselves with the staff in your child's room. We would also like to congratulate Becky from The Treetops on the safe arrival of her beautiful baby boy.

From November the 4th 2024 we will be changing our daily sessions and introducing a new 'block session' approach (which many local nurseries already do). We have decided to make this change to further assist the smooth running of the setting and provide a more structured daily routine and calmer environment for the children. We have found that having more of the children arriving and leaving at the same times will not only create a flowing transition which is less disruptive for the children, but it will also have an impact on our staffing and prevent staff being pulled from the rooms consistently and instead allow one member of staff to manage handovers at one time. All Parents/Carers must be advised that if you decide to collect your child early (for example you collect your child an hour early on a Friday to go on holiday over the weekend), you will still be charged for the entirety of the block session you have booked. We will no longer be offering a reduced rate for 15 and 30-minute intervals and all sessions are charged at a full hour/block rate.

Nursery opening hours are 08:00am – 4:00pm

Block sessions are as follows:	
Early Starters	08:00am – 09:00am
Morning Sessions	09:00am – 12:00pm
Afternoon Session	12:00pm – 03:00pm
Late Finishers	03:00pm – 04:00pm
All Day Session Examples	08:00am – 03:00pm 09:00am – 04:00pm 09:00am – 03:00pm 08:00am – 04:00pm

Kind regards,
Jo Webster



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Government-Funded Childcare

Any Parent/Carer that may be starting work before January 1st need to apply for Working Parents Funding before the 31st December.

From **September 2024**, 15 hours childcare support will be extended to eligible working parents of children from the age of 9 months to 2-years-old.

From **September 2025**, eligible working parents of children under the age of 5 will be entitled to 30 hours of childcare a week.

Like the existing offer, these hours can be used over 38 weeks of the year.

To check your eligibility, go to www.childcarechoices.gov.uk

Funding and Sustainability Fee

We would like to remind Parents/Carers that any child who is in receipt of the working parent funding will be charged a sustainability fee of £4.00 per day (£2.00 per session) to cover the cost of paper, stationary, paints and pens etc.



Reheating Food

We must advise that we **cannot reheat rice or chicken on the bone**. Staff are happy to heat lunch time meals for the children however we only have access to a microwave. Please ensure you let staff know at drop off if you have provided food to be reheated.

As well as **nuts** we now cannot allow **seafood** within the setting due to allergies; please can you ensure your child's lunchbox is free of **seafood** and **nuts**.

This includes:

- Tuna/Salmon/Prawn
- Crab sticks
- Chocolate Spread
- Pesto





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Halloween Disco

On October the 17th 2024, we will be having a disco within the setting to celebrate Halloween. Children are welcome to dress up and come in their spookiest outfits. If this is not your child's usual day/session, your child is invited to attend but Parents/Carers will need to stay with and supervise their child throughout. Invites will be sent home shortly.



Telephone Withheld

Please be advised that when you receive a call from the Nursery it will come from a withheld number – so may appear on your phone as 'Caller Unknown'. We will always leave a voicemail on phones that allow this, however if yours does not, then please call us back on 01985 210308 as sometimes this may be a matter of urgency.



A huge thank you to all the wonderful Parents/Carers for their extremely generous gifts of chocolates, flowers, cards etc at the end of last term – it's very much appreciated by all staff and kept us going over the long summer break!

Applying for School

DEADLINE MIDNIGHT 15TH JANUARY 2025

May we remind Parents/Carers of children who are to start school in September 2025, that they need to have applied for places by January the 15th 2025. Any Parents/Carers that need advice please come and speak to us.

<https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/schools-learning-admissions-applying>

Term Topics

The Woodlands (0-2 years) Room Leader – Becky

This term our topic is 'All About Me'. We will be asking Parents/Carers to tell us your child's favourite food e.g. fruit and vegetables, to go on our healthy eating display. We will also all be getting to know each other and building relationships.

The Meadow (2-3 years) Room Leader – Lucy

This term our topic is 'My World'. We will be looking at things important to the children such as current interests, family, friends and building new relationships with adults and peers.

The Treetops (3 – Rising 5's) Room Leader – Jenny

This term our topic is 'All About Me'. We will be learning about our peers likes and dislikes and what is important to us. We will also be supporting the children with new transitions and discovering all of their individual abilities.

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Matt Curtis
P H O T O G R A P H Y

On Wednesday the 9th of October, we will have Matt Curtis attending the setting to photograph portraits of the children professionally. The session will run from 08:30am – 04:00pm. Photographs will be available for Parents/Carers to purchase, although there is no obligation to do so.

If this is not your child's normal session and you would like to book a time slot, please speak to Jo or Amy in the office. Parents/Carers are welcome to bring siblings if you would like your children to have a photograph together – all children attending outside of their usual session will need to be supervised by a Parent/Carer throughout.

No 'messy play' will run throughout the day, so children are welcome to come in best dress, however a spare outfit can also be sent in for them to change into if you prefer.

A letter to Parents/Carers, as well as a permission slip will be sent home shortly. Please ensure this is completed and returned promptly.

Colder Weather

Parents/Carers must be reminded to always dress your child adequately for the weather and ensure you send your child in with a labelled coat and a full drinks bottle which the staff will encourage the children to drink throughout the day. Parents/Carers can also send in a pair of wellington boots and slippers which the staff can change the children into when they come in from outdoor play.

Holidays, Festivals and Events

September

- 6th – Read a book day
- 8th – International Literacy Day
- 8th – Star Trek Day
- 9th – 22nd – Fairtrade Fortnight
- 14th - World Atopic Eczema Day
- 20th – Autumn Equinox
- 23rd – International Day of Sign Languages

October

- 1st – 31st – Black History Month
- 1st – World Vegetarian Day
- 2nd – 4th – Rosh Hashanah
- 4th – World Dyslexia Awareness Day
- 4th – 10th – World Space Week
- 5th – World Teachers Day
- 6th – Grandparents Day UK
- 11th – 12th – Yom Kippur
- 15th - Shwmae Su'mae Day
- 27th – British Summer Time Ends
- 31st - Halloween

November

- 1st – Diwali
- 5th – Guy Fawkes Night
- 10th – Remembrance Sunday
- 11-15th – Anti-Bullying Week
- 11th – Remembrance Day
- 17th – 23rd – Road Safety Week
- 20th – Universal Children's Day
- 28th – Thanksgiving
- 30th – St Andrew's Day



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30 Hours Funding

All children are entitled to 15 funded hours the term after they are three, the government has extended this to up to 30 hours a week for some working families. To be eligible for this funding both parents (working single parents may also be eligible) need to be working 16 hours per week at the National Minimum or Living

Wage. To check if you are eligible go to www.childcarechoices.gov.uk If you are eligible, please let us know and we will check our availability to accommodate these hours and we will give you a permission form to put your details on, which will allow us to add your funding code to the portal.

Nuts and Cutting

Can we remind you that we have a **No Nut** policy and items such as chocolate spread or some chocolate bars can contain nut fillings, can we please ask that all food items are double checked before they are sent in.

Please also ensure foods are cut appropriately when in the children's lunches e.g., cocktail sausages, cherry tomatoes, strawberries, and grapes. These foods need to be **cut in half, length ways** to prevent the risk of choking. Can we also please ask that you use an icepack in lunch boxes to keep lunches cool.

COVID 19

We no longer require children to be tested for COVID 19, however we do still ask that parents/carers do not bring children to nursery for 3 days following symptoms typical of the virus. For general illness such as a runny nose and cough, children may still attend the setting if they are well in themselves and not taking Calpol for anything other than teething.

Language and Communication

We will again be having many initiatives running through the setting this year to support the children's language and communication skills. On a regular basis the children in The Meadow and The Treetops enjoy activities taken from the I CAN Babbling Babies, Toddler Talk and Letters and Sounds. Treetops will have two new phonic sounds to learn every other week, your child will be provided with a collection tub and be asked to collect as many objects beginning with the phonic sound of the week. In order to complement this initiative, we will continue to use the Jolly Phonics programme, which supports children's communication skills phonetically. The Meadow will have books sent home, and we encourage parents/carers to read with your child to assist us in building a working partnership with parents/carers. We shall provide examples and information sheets to support you in helping your child.

There will continue to be story sacks available for you to borrow and enjoy with your child. The story sacks will contain such things as a book, soft toy, activity, song sheet and colouring page. If you are interested in taking one home, please see Jo Webster, Jo Spink or your child's key person. BLAST (Boosting Language, Auditory Skills and Talking) will be carried out with small groups on a six weekly rolling programme. Children in The Woodlands Class will be enjoying activities from Babbling Babies, please speak to your child's Key Person if you would like more information on this.

Wiltshire Local Offer

Every local authority is responsible for publishing a Local Offer and making sure it is clear, comprehensive, and available for everyone to see.

The Local Offer provides information on the services available for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND) aged between 0 to 25, and how to access them.

<https://localoffer.wiltshire.gov.uk/article/6206/What-is-Local-Offer-about>

Late Fees

Due to staff/children's ratios and safety it is extremely important that all children are picked up on time. A late fee of £6 for the first 15 minutes will be charge and an additional £6 for any part of any 15 minutes thereafter. For a child picked up after 4pm a late fee of £20 for the first 15 minutes will be charged and an additional £20 for any part of any 15 minutes thereafter.

Dates for your Diary

- 9th October - Matt Curtis Photography
- 7th March – Teacher Training Day

Autumn Term Dates 2024

2nd September 2024 – 7th January 2025

2 nd September	Return to nursery
18 th October	Break up for half term
4 th November	Return to nursery
20 th December	Break up for half term

Spring Term Dates 2025

6th January 2025 – 22nd April 2025

6 th January	Return to nursery
14 th February	Break up for half term
24 th February	Return to nursery
7 th March	Teacher Training Day
4 th April	Break up for half term
22 nd April	Return to nursery



Please follow us on Facebook for up-to-date news and information, closures, and reminders. This is a private group for parents/carers only. You will find us under Warminster Bright Beginnings.

Warminster Bright Beginnings Nursery



Job Vacancy.



Warminster Bright Beginnings are looking to recruit a very passionate, enthusiastic and committed person to be an Early Years Practitioner/Assistant/Key Person to work in our nursery. The successful candidate will ideally hold a relevant Level 2 or 3 qualification in Childcare or be willing to work towards a relevant qualification and must be aware of current safeguarding legislation and safeguarding responsibilities.

Additional hours will be required to cover staff contingencies, cleaning nights and our extended hours (Nursery hours are 08:00am to 4:00pm Monday to Friday, term time only).

A full job description and specification will be provided with the application form. This position is subject to DBS checks and suitable references.

Positions available are:

Monday to Friday 08:45 - 12:15

Monday to Friday 12:00 - 4:00

Monday to Friday 08:45 - 4:30

Pay: £11.44 - £11.70 per hour

FOR AN APPLICATION FORM OR FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE EMAIL US AT WARMINSTERBRIGHTBEGINNINGS@GMAIL.COM OR CALL US ON 01985 210308

JOB POSTING CAN ALSO BE FOUND ON INDEED UNDER 'WARMINSTER BRIGHT BEGINNINGS'

WWW.WARMINSTERBRIGHTBEGINNINGS.CO.UK



Our Contact:

Tel: 01985 210308

Email: warminsterbrightbeginnings@gmail.com