



April 2022						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Nursery News

April

2022

Our New Telephone Number—01827 794164

Special Request—Please can you send in any spare empty plastic containers, e.g. Takeaway boxes/ice cream containers.

Message from the Head of Federation

Dear All

I want to say **again** a huge thank you to you all for following all the updated COVID guidance that is in place. Early Years settings across the county have been hit with the new omicron variant as more staff and children have tested positive for COVID. Thank you for working with us to manage the rise in cases. I hope the email we sent out on Friday updated you with all the new rules post 1st April.

We are reaching a point in the year that our children that will be leaving us in July 2022 will be allocated their school place over the Easter Holidays. Please do let us know what school your child has been allocated and we will then organise transition meetings with their new school. If you are appealing the decision or on a waiting list for a different school please do let us know.

I want to reassure you all that due to COVID and lockdowns the transition from nursery to school has been adapted to meet the needs of the children and any gaps that have arisen through lockdowns. The children continue to follow the Early Years Curriculum until the end of their Reception Year once they move to school. We will organise days for your child's new teacher/teachers to come and visit them at nursery and we will do transition meetings with the new schools. If you have any questions regarding the curriculum or transition please do let us know and we will help in any way we can.

We are looking forward to welcoming some new children into nursery after the Easter holidays and some of our children will be moving into Butterfly nursery from Caterpillar Nursery.

I hope you have a good Easter Holidays and let's hope the sun does shine!

Nicci

OPAL ASSESSMENT

OPAL parent phone calls will be taking place from Monday 4th April for children whose birthday or half birthday falls in March. Your child's key person will arrange a mutually convenient time to call you to discuss your child's progress.

PARENT SHARE

Thank you to those parents and carers who have signed up for Parent Share. There are a lot of photos and videos being sent in and staff are enjoying seeing what your child does out of school. Evidence Me photos and observations will be released at the end of term, so you can see what we have been doing at Nursery.

If you are not familiar with how to use Parent Share, Sharon Wood and Carole Jackson will be running an Evidence Me Parent Workshop after Easter via teams. Below is the link to join on Tuesday 5th April at 9.30 – 10.30. We look forward to seeing you.

https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_YmZhY2ZmZDgtYjk0ZS00ZjhiLTkwZDMtNzQ4ODMxMTNIYTA3%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%224c1511fa-bab9-437a-a19d-a9e53f29fdb0%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22a9c17caf-bb18-45aa-8101-369867418ff1%22%7d

Dates for your Diary

Friday 8th April 2022	Break up for Easter
Monday 25th April 2022	Children return to Nursery
Monday 2nd May 2022	May day Bank Holiday
Friday 27th May 2022	Break up for Spring Half Term
Monday 6th June 2022	Teacher Training Day-school closed
Tuesday 7th June 2022	Children return to Nursery
Thursday 21st July 2022	Break up for Summer holidays

Teacher Training Days
2021/2022

Monday 6th June 2022

Please also note that the
last day of this academic
year will be Thursday
21st July 2022

School uniform can be ordered by following this link.— <https://www.yourschooluniform.com/>

Keeping Everyone Safe - Some reminders:

- Please close all gates and doors behind you. This is to keep all of our children safe.
- We would advise that you continue to wear masks, when dropping off and picking up your children from nursery, especially if you have a positive COVID case in your home.
- Please do not park on the yellow zig zags outside Nursery. If the fire engine needs to attend an emergency to save a life and your car is in the way, they will move it by whatever means available!
- Please let us know, by phoning the Nursery if someone else will be collecting your child. Remember, we will not let your child go with someone we don't know or haven't been told is collecting your child. Passwords must be used.
- Could we please ask that mobile phones are not used outside the nursery gate so that family leaders can talk to you on the handover should they need to. Thank you.

Some reminders:

- At nursery, we encourage the children to eat healthy snacks such as milk, water, fruit and vegetables. We would like to do the same at lunch time, on our website under newsletters is a poster with suggestions of healthy lunch options to give you some extra ideas of the kind of things you can send in for children, which can include a small treat such as a biscuit bar.
- Please can we ask that children only bring a small named plastic bag with spare clothes and their packed lunch. Please ensure that all items of clothing are named.
- Please do not bring any toys from home into nursery.
- As the weather is getting warmer, please can you put sun cream on your child before coming into nursery. For children that stay all day, please send in a named factor 50+ sun cream bottle into nursery.
- The snack collection trolleys are fully in operation now - please do drop your child's contribution of fruit into the trolley that will be positioned at the gate on their arrival. Thank you!
- If any families are needing to store prams in the pram store they can now do so.

Please do let us know if your child is going to be absent from Nursery School - whether it is because of illness, family circumstances or holiday. Call **01827 794164** and leave an absence message or tell the reception staff.

Regular school attendance is important for the children to make relationships and learn. However, young children do become poorly, especially at this time of year, so please keep them at home if they are unwell. Thank you very much to everyone for co-operating in letting us know when your child can not attend. We are very grateful for the phone calls and messages. Remember—with vomiting sickness and diarrhoea please give a clear 48 hours before sending your child back to nursery. Thank you.



Important contact details

Atherstone Nursery School:

Telephone No: 01827 794 164

Email: admin1000@welearn365.com

Website: www.atherstonenurseryschool.com

**IN THE EVENT OF EXTREME WEATHER CONDITIONS: THE FOLLOWING WEBSITE AND RADIO STATIONS WILL BROADCAST SCHOOL CLOSURES: www.warwickshire.gov.uk
Free Radio 97 & 102.9 FM BBC Radio Coventry & Warwickshire 94.8 103.7 & 104 FM**

BUTTERFLY NURSERY NEWS

My, how the time flies, it's already the end of our Spring term! The children have been amazing as always and adapted very well to the unavoidable changes in staff as Covid has hit us hard this term. Where possible, we have been using consistent staff for Family times, a familiar face for your child.

Thank you for continuing to adapt to our ways of working to keep our school community safe. We really appreciate that you take extra care and consideration for others when your child is ill.

CURRICULUM

This term we have been celebrating the festivals of Chinese New Year and Shrove Tuesday. Both involved a lot of food tasting! The children discovered the Chinese New Year cycle of animals and excitedly re-enacted the story of swimming across the river. They also took part in pancake races outside, running and trying not to drop their pancake!

World Book Day was celebrated as usual with dressing up in our favourite character costumes. Your child should have received a book token that entitles them to a free book.

It has also been Chatter Matters Week. Across the school, children were engaging in Listening and Attention activities that are vital for developing language. It is rare that children experience total silence and tune in to the sounds that they can hear, especially outside. Have a go at home. It's amazing what sounds can be heard in the distance – a bird singing, a neighbour's dog barking, the cars on the motorway.

The children are also learning how to keep themselves safe and be proactive when in a situation they might find frightening. We are teaching them the correct names for body parts, so that if the need arises they can accurately tell an adult what is hurting. We also teach what children can do if they are in a situation that they don't like, for example saying in a loud voice, 'Stop it! I don't like it!'

We also talk about a safe stranger, eg a shop assistant in Tesco, and how to identify them by their Tesco badge. You may already have your own strategies for your child and I urge you to re visit them regularly.

Over the next few weeks we will be learning about Spring and Easter and the customs that surround these festivals.

NURSERY CLOTHES

It is a part of Nursery life that your child will get messy and maybe wet during their play. Sand, water and paint are all experiences that we offer and your child is able to take part in. Sand and water are sensory and the children love the feel of both running on their hands. They are also important for learning the Mathematical concepts of volume and quantity. Paint is a wonderful way of expressing your feelings and experimenting with media. You may receive many paintings that all look the same, until one day you see a recognisable picture! It is a process that all children go through and enjoy.

Some of our children prefer to learn outdoors and so the messy activities are replicated outside so that all children can access them. Unfortunately, this may mean wet or painted coats. All efforts are made to reduce this, but accidents will happen. Please do not send your child to nursery in their best clothes and coats. We want them to feel that they can access all of our activities without worrying about getting their clothes dirty. If you need a play coat, please speak to a member of staff as we have several donated coats that you can use. Also, please keep your child's supply of clean clothes topped up. Send clean named clothes in a plastic bag and we will refill your child's canvas bag that is kept on their peg. Thanks.

The weather is hopefully going to be warmer now that Spring has arrived. Could we ask that children still wear closed toe shoes or trainers please? Outdoor play involves a lot of climbing and running and children need a robust shoe in order to enjoy all the activities.

Thank you for your continued support,

The Butterfly Team - Jenny, Sue, Sam, Gracie, Elizabeth, Michelle, Michaela, Elly and Kerry

LOCAL WELFARE SCHEME

The council's Local Welfare Scheme continues to help residents at times of unavoidable crisis when they have no other means of help and can provide financial support and advice for people in crisis who need support to access food and utilities. The scheme also signposts to further support available from other public, community and voluntary services around the county.

Details are below...

Contacts: **Warwickshire Local Welfare Scheme**, 01926 359182 or 0800 408 1448
www.warwickshire.gov.uk/localwelfarescheme

For information about wider support from the council and other services, go to: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/facinghardship

WCC SEND NEWSLETTER

Please see the link below to read the newsletter.

<https://mailchi.mp/warwickshire/warwickshire-send-mar22>

Caterpillar Nursery News

In Caterpillar nursery we are getting excited about Spring. We have spent lots of time talking about the Spring season and all of the wonderful changes that it brings. We have been learning about growth and new life, such as flowers shooting up, new leaves on the trees and how the birds are busily building their nests.

We have been lucky enough to visit our forest school where we could hunt for signs of spring. We saw the beautiful yellow daffodils, the soft moss on the logs and the new green leaves on the trees. We listened very carefully and heard the birds singing to one another. We also had great fun developing our physical skills as we found our way through the bamboo, climbed on the logs and swung in the hammock!

Indoors we have enjoyed painting and drawing with colours that remind us of Spring. We have provided natural materials such as twigs, pebbles and feathers to use with the playdough. This has inspired the children to work imaginatively and model their own creations.

At family-time we have been talking about baby animals being born and enjoying stories relating to this learning focus. One of our favourites is: Noisy Farm by Rod Campbell.

We have also been singing:

5 Little Ducks: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pZw9veQ76fo>

Hello Mr Sun:

Hello Mr Sun, hello ,hello

Hello Mr Sun, hello

Shine down, shine down

And watch my flowers grow!

The children came in some amazing costumes to celebrate world book day. This has really inspired their interest in looking at books and sharing stories together.

Requests

We would like to develop imaginative play with plant pots and artificial flowers. If anyone has any silk flowers they no longer need, we would love to have them.

We would also like to set up a farm shop role- play area. Please can we request that you bring in any empty egg boxes, washed yoghurt pots and butter containers.

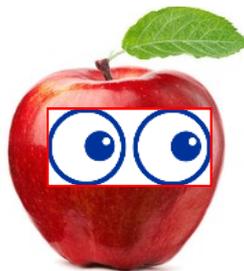
Can we ask that if you send spare clothes into nursery for your child, that you please label all the items with their name.

Finally, when the weather becomes warmer, please can you apply sun-cream to your child before they come into nursery as this is not a staff responsibility.

Many thanks for all your support, Deb, Lisa, Rachel and Emma.

Nursery Fund Contribution

Nursery contributions from families help us provide additional resources and activities that are not covered in the budget. It also tops up the snack items each week to ensure there is enough for all. All donations are appreciated.



Our account details are:
Account No: 38951760

**Nursery
Fund
donations so
far: £78.20**

Parents/Carers, please remember the
Parent/Carer Code of Conduct

-that you have all read and agreed to during induction

Please be **kind, respectful** and **polite** to staff at the gates.

Staff are following new **Government Protocol** and guidance from **Public Health England** to keep your children and staff as safe as we possibly can throughout the Coronavirus Pandemic.

- There will be times when we have to ask questions.
- There will be times when we ask you to wait whilst asking for guidance from Senior Leaders.
- There will be times when we need a second opinion as the guidance changes daily.
- Please be patient. This is for everyone's safety.

Thank you for helping us- you really make a difference in keeping our nursery community safe.



Allotment News

As a Nursery School, we are always trying to find ways to be eco-friendly and support the environment. For example, we are no longer using individual milk cartons for snack, but having cups that are washed and reused, and milk in bottles that can then be recycled. As part of our new allotment space, we want to create a dividing wall and have decided to use metal cage "gabions" and, instead of stones, to fill them with empty two litre pop bottles, that have been filled with plastics that can't be recycled currently. These are called "Eco Bricks" We would like you to help us by filling a bottle each which can then be added to our gabions. There is a link below that tells you all about it, how to prepare the plastic, and how to pack your bottle as tightly as possible. An activity to start with the children over Easter, perhaps!

<https://www.ecobricks.org/how/>