



Dear Parents

December
2020



Welcome to our Nursery News for the month of December 2020. We are on the countdown to Christmas and already there is a growing excitement and air of anticipation in the nursery. This month will be a particularly busy one so please take a few minutes to read about all the wonderful activities and events we have planned for your children during December.

Our theme this month is Christmas and our colours are **GOLD** and **SILVER** - children are encouraged to help build up our colour windows and Christmas table by providing interesting things from home. A copy of our planning for this month will be on display on the notice board. Anyone who wishes to have a personal copy of the planning should request one from your child's teacher. Christmas is a very busy time for crafts and costumes so we would really appreciate any tinsel donations which will add lots more sparkle to the Nursery!

The children have enjoyed our Brown Money Month during November. This is such an easy and popular way of raising some funds and we will keep it running throughout the year, so please keep those pennies coming in!

Happy Birthday to...

Meghan, Harriet, Remy & Ben



The children have settled well into our dinner routine and we are delighted that already many of the children are trying things their parents would never have expected. Please continue to reinforce good table manners at home encourage your child's growing independence by letting them feed themselves at meal times and praising them for sitting well during meal times.



ENROLMENT 2020/2021

The nursery criteria for September 2021 will be published on our school website on 18th December, in line with EA. www.trinitynurseryschool.co.uk.


Applications can be submitted online from 7th January at 12noon – 29th January 2021.


For further information on the application process please go to www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions

**SCHOOL REOPENS IN THE NEW YEAR ON
TUESDAY 5TH JANUARY 2021 AT THE
NORMAL TIME AND DINNER MONEY WILL
BE £10 FOR FOUR DAYS**


**SCHOOL FUND FOR THE FIRST HALF OF
TERM 2 WILL BE CALCULATED IN
JANUARY, TAKING INTO
CONSIDERATION ANY
EXCEPTIONAL/FORCED CLOSURES
DUE TO COVID**


Some important news and dates for your diary:

 We are very excited to tell you that Mrs Alexander will be joining the Trinity staff in January as Teaching Principal. Mrs Alexander will be teaching full time in the Yellow Room and Miss Adair will return to the Red Room and to teach alongside her job share partner Mrs Ingham. Over the next few weeks the staff team will be working with the children to prepare them for the upcoming changes. The children will have the chance to virtually interact with their new teachers and become familiar with them during this time.

 We bid farewell to Mr Buchanan, Building Supervisor this month as he moves to a full time post in another school setting. Mr Bond will join us as Mr Buchanan's replacement. We wish Mr Buchanan our very best wishes in his new role.

Don't forget to buy a ticket for our Christmas concerts on **Thursday 10th**. Children should wear their Christmas jumpers or favourite festive clothes on this day. The concert will be shared via Seesaw.

 **Wednesday 16th December** we will welcome Mr Hullabaloo and his interactive Theatre Company. This will be the last day for school dinners.

 On **Friday 18th December** is our last day of school and we are looking forward to lots of fun. This is a non uniform day. Santa loves to collect all the dummies the boys and girls have brought in for his baby reindeer so if your child is at that stage and wants to help Santa please give them to your child's teacher. School finishes at **11am**.

Some small reminders to parents at this time to ensure the effective running of the Nursery:-

Please keep the nursery up to date with any change of address, mobile numbers etc. as it is vital we have a means of contacting you directly.

All the staff would like to make a very special plea to parents to ensure that all uniforms are clearly marked with your child's name. It is amazing just how many sweatshirts etc. have no name. We would also ask that pants, socks & uniforms which have been used during "little accidents" are returned to us as our stocks are at an all time low.

Please ensure that dinner money is sent in on Mondays. The correct amount would be appreciated as change can be difficult to make, please also ensure your child's name is clearly labelled.

If you have not already done so, please send in a warm hat for your child to wear during outdoor play. We keep these in our special hat box.

Please be mindful when dropping off and collecting your child from school. We have had a couple of phone calls during Term 1 from local residents in the Brunswick Road area concerned for the safety of pedestrians. Parents with small children and buggies have had to walk onto the road as the cars are parking on the footpath. Also, the area in front of the school gates should not be used for parking your car at any time, nor should the school car park be used unless permission has been given (medical reasons). The private car park at Greenmount Apartments behind the Nursery should not be used either for parking. The safety of the children must come first.

*If your child is going to be absent from school please contact the office
tel: 02891 270355.*

*Also, under the current situation with the ongoing pandemic please ensure
that you do not send your child to school if he/she is showing Covid specific
symptoms. Your child can only return once a negative test has result been
received, or after 10 days of isolation and no ongoing symptoms.*

YOU SHOULD BOOK A COVID-19 TEST IF YOUR CHILD HAS:

A HIGH TEMPERATURE

This means they feel hot to touch on their chest or back (you do not need to measure their temperature)

OR

A NEW CONTINUOUS COUGH

This means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if they usually have a cough it may be worse than usual)

OR

A LOSS OR CHANGE TO THEIR SENSE OF SMELL OR TASTE

This means they've noticed they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

IF YOUR CHILD DOES NOT HAVE SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19 BUT HAS OTHER COLD-LIKE SYMPTOMS, SUCH AS A RUNNY NOSE, THEY DO NOT NEED TO BE TESTED AND THEY OR MEMBERS OF YOUR HOUSEHOLD DO NOT NEED TO SELF-ISOLATE. YOUR CHILD CAN ATTEND SCHOOL IF FIT TO DO SO.

HERE'S WHAT TO DO IF:

YOUR CHILD HAS COVID-19 SYMPTOMS

WHAT TO DO?

DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL
Book a COVID-19 test
Household self-isolates
Inform school immediately about test result

WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?

Your child can return to school if the test is negative providing they are well enough, have not had a fever for 48 hours and if they haven't been advised to self-isolate by the PHA Contact Tracing Service

YOUR CHILD TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

WHAT TO DO?

DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL
Inform school immediately about test result
Self-isolate for at least 10 days as advised by the PHA

WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?

Your child can return to school after 10 days even if they still have a cough / loss of smell or taste. These symptoms can last for several weeks

SOMEBODY IN MY HOUSEHOLD HAS COVID-19 SYMPTOMS

WHAT TO DO?

DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL
The household member should book a COVID-19 test
Household self-isolates
Inform school immediately about test result

WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?

Your child can return to school if the symptomatic household member's test is negative and if they haven't been advised to self-isolate by the PHA Contact Tracing Service

SOMEBODY IN MY HOUSEHOLD TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

WHAT TO DO?

DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL
Inform school immediately about test result

WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?

Your child can return to school when they have completed 14 days of self-isolation without any symptoms*



In recent years there has been a growing trend for children to give Christmas cards to the entire class & staff. We would respectfully ask parents to discourage this trend as this may unintentionally add to the risk of spreading Covid in the Nursery. Many families have struggled financially since the lockdown in March so please do not feel obliged or pressured to send cards or buy gifts for the staff. Whilst we appreciate the sentiment there is no need and we would much rather you are comfortable or made a donation to the local food bank/other.

Wishing you all a happy and peaceful Christmas

from Mrs Ingham, Miss Adair & Staff at Trinity Nursery School



Everyday and Everyway Talking about... December



December can be a month of celebration and great excitement. Whatever your tradition or celebration, it will often mean the Nativity story, gift giving, decorating and special food. When you talk with your child during these special activities, they learn even more!

Try these activities, songs, books and crafts to help your child learn. Speak, sing and talk about books with your child in your own language.



Activities

Traditions

Talk about the traditions you have in your family. Take time to include your child in these traditions. Explain what each tradition means, and why it is important to your family.

Talk about your own childhood memories of Christmas.

Involve your child in the Christmas plans.

Talk about their Advent Calendars.



Decorating the house

Let your child help you decorate.

- Help him put the unbreakable ornaments where he can reach – on the bottom of the tree.
- Talk about the ornaments as you hang them up – *Where did you get them? What do they look like? What colour are they? Who made them?*
- Use place words – *up, down, high, low, under, or beside.*
- Use new words – *branches, sap, needles, hooks, tinsel, garland or twinkling lights.*
- Help your child make his own ornaments and hang them around the house.



Wrapping Gifts

With your help he or she can get the tape ready, cut the ribbon, and write the names on the tags (or kisses and hugs)

- Talk about how the tape is sticky and the ribbon is shiny.
- Talk about the size of the box and paper.



Concerts

Most communities, schools or churches have holiday concerts for children. Look for one in your area.

- Talk about the things you see on the stage.
- Talk about the songs and instruments you hear.
- Talk about the play or story.
- Ask your child what they think will happen.

Holiday Lights

Take a walk or drive through your area and look at all the pretty lights and decorations.

- Talk about the different decorations – snowmen, angels, Santa or candles.
- Talk about which lights you like best and why.
- Visit a local light display.

Out and About

When shopping, draw attention to Christmas decorations and shop displays. Which displays does your child like best? Why?

- Deliver Christmas cards together talking about street names and house numbers. Go to the Post Office together to buy Christmas stamps. Talk about friends and family, who live further away.

Songs and Rhymes

Want to learn more songs and rhymes and rhymes?
Look for a parent-child music class in your area.

Are you sleeping?

(A Christmas version)

Are you sleeping?
No more peeking
Or I'll tell, or I'll tell
Santa Claus is coming
Santa Claus is coming
Hear his bells
Hear his bells!

Twinkle Twinkle

Twinkle twinkle Christmas lights
Father Christmas came last night
Up above the snowy skies
Eating ice cream and mince pies
Twinkle twinkle Christmas lights
Father Christmas came last night

Traditional Christmas songs

- Away in a Manger
- Jingle Bells
- Frosty the Snowman
- When Santa got stuck up the chimney
- Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer

Remember to:

Follow your child's lead

Add new words and ideas

Repeat new words over and over

Books

Go to your local library to find these and many more great books
Merry Christmas, big hungry bear!
By Don and Audrey Wood
Dream snow by Eric Carle
Frosty the Snowman by Jack Rollings and Steve Nelson
Silver Bells by Jay Livingston and Ray Evans
Counting Christmas by Karen Katz
My First Swanzaa by Karen Katz
Christmas Angel by Laure Dollin



Making and Baking

- Show your child how to make paper chain decorations.
- Make a letter to Santa by allowing your child to cut out pictures from a toy catalogue.
- Address is to Santa at Santa's Grotto, Reindeer Land, MX4 5HQ and you will be assured a reply courtesy of the Royal Mail.
- In the Kitchen, let your child enjoy and talk about the smells of Christmas cooking. If you are baking mince pies, give your child some of the pastry trimmings to play with.

- Perhaps with a blunt needle you could thread some popcorn to make a Christmas tree garlands.

Soft Sugar Cookies

- 1 cup butter
- 1½ cups sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla flavouring
- 1 teaspoon almond flavouring
- ¾ cup milk
- 4 cups flour
- 2½ teaspoons baking powder
- 1 teaspoon salt

Cream together butter and sugar until light and fluffy. Mix in eggs, vanilla and almond flavouring.

Sift together flour, baking powder and salt. Gradually add flour mixture and mix well.

Shape dough into a ball and cover with plastic. Refrigerate overnight. Roll dough to desired thickness and cut with favourite Christmas cookie cutters.

Bake in a 350°F oven for 8-10 minutes.

Let cool and decorate with your favourite icing.

When making
crafts ...
How the craft
looks when it's
done is as
important as the
fun your child has
making it