

October 2017

Dear Parents,

Thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter and finding out what we have been up to in 2017 and what is yet to come! Hopefully you will be as entertained as we have been so far this year with all of the fun activities and events at nursery.

Tiny Tots

This month Babies and Toddlers have been busy exploring our Autumn topic. We have gone out on lots of walks collecting leaves and Autumnal resources. We have enjoyed exploring the different shapes and textures of the leaves in the tuff spot.

We have explored a variety of messy play, and a favourite was Pumpkin flesh and seeds. This helped promote the children's fine motor skills and hand eye co ordination, along with developing new vocabulary.

We ended a fun and busy month with a Halloween party. Every one had lots of fun playing games, dancing and having party food.



Little Learners

The children in the Little Learners have had a busy month exploring Autumn and the changes that are happening in nature around them. They loved going on walks to the nature reserve and Physic garden to collect leaves and other resources to use back in the nursery.



They used these leaves to make hedgehog collages, leaf headbands and the Rangers added letters to theirs to make beautiful leaf name banners which are on display in the nursery - a great literacy activity to help encourage letter and name recognition.

The children also developed their Personal and Social skills by learning about different cultures and beliefs when we looked at the festival of Diwali. They listened to the story of Rama and Sita and watched a short video on how children celebrate this festival with their families. They then enjoyed making their own Diva candles using their fingers to decorate them and added lots of glitter!

Finally, they had lots of fun celebrating Halloween - learning new songs and investigating the insides of Pumpkins! They all enjoyed the party where everyone dressed up and played lots of different games - the blue slime sweetie swamp was a favourite with lots of hands on sensory fun.

Key Person Consultations

Please can we remind parents about the Key Person Consultations that we are able to provide throughout the year.

These meetings offer an opportunity for the key person and parents to share their observations and to consider the implications of these in terms of planning for the child's learning. They are an opportunity for us to celebrate what the child has achieved and to look for ways of building on their current interests and achievements. They are also a nice insight into how your child has settled after any transitions that they may have experienced.

If you would like to arrange an appointment with your child's key person either ask one of the team, drop us an email or give us a call.



Medication at nursery

If you bring your child into nursery and are aware that they have a temperature and will require medicine, please could you also supply the appropriate medication.

Our medicine is strictly for emergencies only. When we are supplying medication for children, it means that we quickly run out of an emergency store, which is necessary for those children that can experience febrile convulsions.

Unfortunately, if parents are aware that their child will require medication during the day but fail to supply we will have to call for them to come to nursery to administer.

Joining the waiting list for nursery

We are currently holding a waiting list for a Wednesday and Thursday at nursery, with limited availability on the remaining days. If you have a sibling that you would like to enrol at nursery please could you request forms from a team member to enable us to plan and secure the required days.

In accordance with our Admissions Policy we will give priority to siblings of children who already attend nursery.

If you know of friends or family that will be requiring a place between now and April 2018 please advise them to make contact as soon as possible.

Meal Times

Our meal times are as follows:

Breakfast: 08:15-08:45

Morning Snack: 10:00

Lunch: Tiny Tots - 11:30

Cubs & children that are leaving for afternoon school - 11:30

Rangers - 12:15

Afternoon snack: Tiny Tots and Cubs - 14:00

Rangers - 14:30

Tea: Tiny Tots - 15:30

Rangers - 16:00

Staff Celebrations

Chloe and Charlotte have earned their QCF Level 3 in Childcare, Learning and Development. We would like to say a big CONGRATULATIONS - they have worked hard and we are very proud of them!

Stay and Play

We will be holding our next Stay and Play session on Thursday 30th November. The sessions will be from 14:30 - 16:30.

All families are welcome to come along for all or part of the afternoon to have a taste of nursery life!

Health and Nutrition

Following on from the eatwell plate that we looked at in last month's newsletter, understanding food labels will help us as consumers to make healthier choices when purchasing food.

All measures per 100g	Low – a healthier choice	Medium – ok most of the time	High – just occasionally
Sugars	5g or less	5.1g – 15g	More than 15g
Fat	3g or less	3.1g – 20g	More than 20g
Saturates	1.5g or less	1.6g – 5g	More than 5g
Salt	0.30g or less	0.31g – 1.5g	More than 1.5g



Green labels mean the food is LOW in sugar, fat or salt, so will be the healthiest choice.



Amber means MEDIUM, which is fine as part of a balanced diet.



Red means the food is HIGH in something, so try not to eat too much of that.

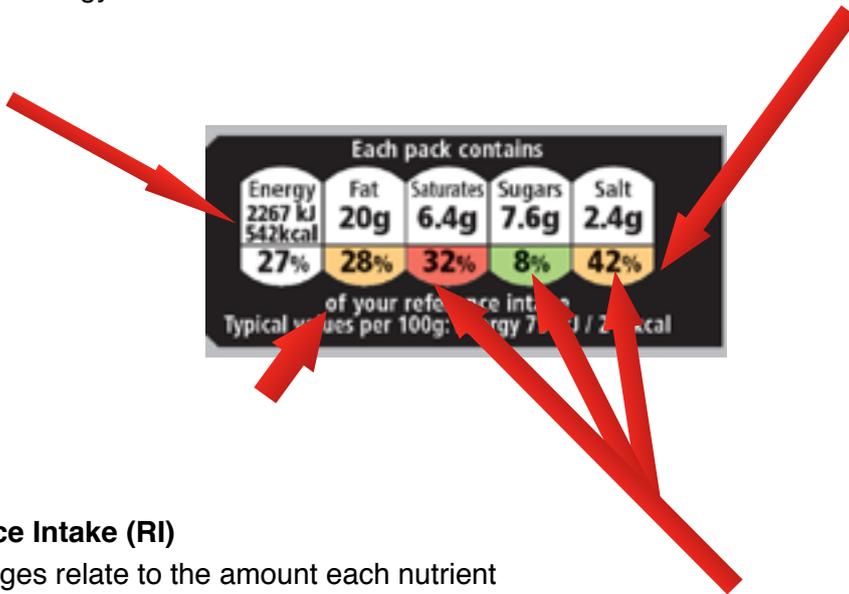
You can look for and order a food label decoder on the British Heart Foundation web-site bhf.org.uk (and the resources are free!)

Energy

There are two ways to measure this (KJ or kcal). To keep a healthy weight, the amount of energy (calories) we eat needs to be balanced with the amount of energy we use.

Energy Per 100g

If the 1st tab gives you a per portion/ pack figure you will find per 100g here so you compare different weights.



Reference Intake (RI)

Percentages relate to the amount each nutrient in the portion/ pack contributes to MAXIMUM amounts.

Maximum amounts relate to values for an average person undertaking average amount of activity.

Traffic Light Colours

These tell us if the nutrient (fat, saturates, sugars and salt) are high, medium or low per 100g so we can compare foods and drinks at a glance.

Payment of Fees

Parents will notice that their invoices are sent on the 27th of each month via email. Attached to this email is a link to pay. This facility is useful for parents who are wishing to pay using a credit card, however, there are fees incurred for doing this - these are set by the payment facilitator and not by Fun Foundations.

If parents are paying using a debit card they will also incur a fee. An easier option is to pay via internet or telephone banking, which is also free! Fun Foundations' bank details are on page 2 of the invoice, if parents already use internet banking then you will know that it is straight forward to set up using your debit card and card reader. Once Fun Foundations have been saved following your first payment then transfers can be easily made using your app on your mobile device or on a desktop.



Please can we remind parents that fees must be paid in full within two weeks of receipt of the invoice.

Transition to School

If/ when families are aware that their child will be starting at school please could it be discussed with a team member.

We are working with many local schools to encourage the smooth transition from our setting to nursery school. As part of this, we are encouraging nursery school teachers to visit the children when they are in our setting to enable them to observe the child in a familiar and comfortable environment.

The objective is to provide the teacher with lots of information to enable them to 'get to know' the child prior to the term starting and ultimately enable the child to settle at nursery school comfortably and quickly.

We also complete 'All About Me' reports for children to take with them to school that provides information on the child at our setting - this allows the teacher to know what to expect from each individual.

If we know in plenty of time about school transitions we have the ability to try and arrange transition meetings at nursery and complete the reports to take to school when the new term begins.

Christmas attendance

We are filling up in the nursery and in holiday club for half term and were wondering if you need to book your place...

The plans for the week is to become Nature Detectives! There will be lots of den-building and roasting of snacks by the fire with Eliza and Marie. We will be having an Halloween Party on the Tuesday afternoon, so the children will be creating treats on Tuesday morning in preparation... dressing-up is a must!

Please drop us an email or give Eliza a call to reserve your place!

Christmas Concert

The Christmas concert will be held on Wednesday 20th December between 16:30 and 18:00 in the Town Hall. Please can the children wear a 'Christmassy' outfit.



Please can we ask a few things of our families to help us make the concert as enjoyable as possible...

- If your child is attending nursery on that day please could you bring their Christmas costume in with them.
- If you bring your child to the Town Hall please can you ensure that you bring them between 16:15 and 16:25 already dressed in their costume and be ready to hand them to the team member by the door who will then take them backstage.
- Tickets will be £1 each to cover the cost of the Hall - when you ask a team member for your tickets please pay them with cash in advance.

We will initially be limiting the number of tickets per family to four - if you require more we will put your name on a list and will allocate any extras fairly between the families.

If your school's term is ending before Friday 22nd December please could you let us know.

Unfortunately, due to the school collection rota we are going to be unable to have our usual Christmas Dinner this year 😞

We have decided to hold a Christmas party as an alternative on Thursday 21st between 15:30 and 16:30.

As with the Halloween party, parents are welcome to accompany their children to the party if Thursday isn't their normal day of attendance.

Fee Increase

The fee increase will be implemented on the first invoice of 2018 (January 26th).

The fees will increase to:

Age 0-2 years, Tiny Tots Unit

Morning (07:30-13:00) - £27.00

Afternoon (13:00 - 18:00) - £27.00

Short Day (07:30 - 15:00) - £35.00

Full Day (07:30 - 18:00) £47.50

Full Time - £230.00

Age 2-5 years, Little Learners Unit

Morning (07:30-13:00) - £26.00



Afternoon (13:00 - 18:00) - £26.00

Short Day (07:30 - 15:00) - £35.00

Full Day (07:30 - 18:00) £46.50

Full Time - £225.00

Wrap Around School Attendance

Age 3-5 years (Rangers) Little Learners Unit

Breakfast Club - £7.00

Morning (07:30-13:00) Inc. taking to school - £26.00

Collection from school at 11:30/ 12:00 and stay at nursery until 15:00 - £24.00

Collection from school at 11:30/ 12:00 and stay at nursery until 18:00 - £34.00

Collection from school between 14:55 and 15:30 and stay at nursery until 18:00 - £14.00

Holiday Club

Full day between 07:30 and 18:00 without lunch - £24.00

Full day between 07:30 and 18:00 with lunch - £27.00

After School Club

After School collection fee (5 years+) - £9.80

Nursery Closure Dates

The nursery will be closed on Monday 25th and Tuesday 26th December and Monday 1st January.

Adhering to Collection Times

Please can we remind families that collection times must be adhered to. When children are collected late there is a direct knock-on effect to our daily routine. This includes the 13:00, 15:00 and 18:00 collection times.

The late fee is £10 for every 15 minutes or part thereof. This will be included on the invoice.

Fee Break

For those parents who have chosen the fee break option at nursery, the following dates are when this can be taken for the remainder of 2017. Please remember that a month's notice must be given to enable the fee break to be actioned. The fee break and bank holiday exemption does not apply to those children that attend nursery for wrap-around care. There is a maximum of a two week fee break per year per family.

Monday 25th December - Friday 5th January



Next year's dates are as follows:

Monday 2nd April - Friday 13th April 2018

Monday 23rd April - Friday 31st August 2018

Christmas term dates for 2018 have are yet to be released.

Change of Clothes

Please could all parents be sure to remember a change of clothes (at least one) and remember to label them. We have a few spare items of clothing that we use in emergencies, however, we really need these returned as soon as possible so we always have a back up should someone require it!

Uniform at Nursery

We have made changes in how our clients can access the on-line shop

- Go to www.euologo.co.uk
 - Click on the page 'Online Shop'
 - Click on our logo
- The nursery uniform can be viewed prior to joining up and ordering.

Friend Referral Scheme

We have had some great feedback from the friend referral scheme...thank you to all those who have been saying such wonderful things about our nursery!

Please don't forget that if you have a friend or family member that is looking for childcare, ask them to mention your name as a friend referral and we will credit your next full month's fees with a 20% discount. The same discount will also be applied to the new family when they enrol

Facebook Page

Please don't forget about our Facebook page. If you have a spare five minutes please feel free to leave a review.

We have been trying to put more information on our FaceBook page to give parents more of an insight into what we are doing at nursery during the day. We were hoping that this would give parents an insight into how the new nursery app would work when we replace the daily diaries.

Twitter Account



If you have a twitter account please follow us @FoundationsFun. Again, we have been putting more information on Twitter for parents to see what we have been doing during the busy nursery day.

Instagram

We have also created an Instagram account to enable us to share more pictures with our parents. We can be found at Fun Foundations.

Many thanks for your ongoing support 😊