



# North Star Nursery Parent Newsletter

February 2019

Dear All,

*Hello and welcome to another newsletter, full of information to help keep you up to date.*

## Parent/Carer Feedback Sessions

These informal sessions are a chance for Parents and Carers to ask questions and give feedback to the Nursery on all aspects of Nursery business. They are led by the Nursery's Parent Representative Kam Deller, and/or Julie. All are welcome and there is no need to book a place, just turn up to a session which works for you.

The next sessions will be held as follows:

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2019 12.15pm – 12.45pm in the Polaris House Bistro

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2019 4.00- 4.45pm in North Star Nursery

We didn't have any attendees to the sessions held on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2018 and 11<sup>th</sup> February 2019, so there are currently no topics/feedback to update you on.

We would love to hear from parents on how they feel the nursery is working for them and what things they would like to see us doing more of. With this in mind we are planning to send out a parent survey in the next couple of months for parents to share their thoughts and feedback. Watch this space!

## Footnote

Opening Hours: 8.00am – 6.00pm (Last pick up 5.45pm)  
Contact: 01793 411994 Email: [info@northstarnursery.co.uk](mailto:info@northstarnursery.co.uk)

## Dates for your diary

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2019 -  
4.15pm **Messy Play session**  
(come along and join us)

Also World Book Day.

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2019 4pm  
**Parent workshop of Government funded hours** (Universal and additional). Will your child be turning 3 soon, come along and find out how to apply for funding.

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2019  
12.15pm **Sleep workshop**

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2019  
8am till 8.45 am **Family breakfast**  
See reply slip

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2019 12.15  
(Polaris House Bistro) –  
**Parent Feedback Session**

Menu changes to "Summer Menu" from 25<sup>th</sup> March 2019  
8<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2019- **Easter break- Holiday Club**  
**Closed 18<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> April inclusive**

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2019  
4.15pm Parent **sing-a-long and Easter Hat parade**

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 12.15 **Potty Training Workshop**

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May 4pm Parent workshop on **Positive Behaviour Management**.

You are welcome to come along to any of the workshops at short notice.

## Learning Journeys-Summaries

I take this opportunity to draw your attention to the comments box and signature box at the end of the orange summaries that we send out two times a year, and ask that you please complete this before returning the folder to us.

The coding that we use to assess your child is explained below:

Months	Stage
0-11m	E
0-11m	W
0-11m	S
8-20m	E
8-20m	W
8-20m	S
16-26m	E
16-26m	W
16-26m	S
22-36m	E
22-36m	W
22-36m	S
30-50m	E
30-50m	W
30-50m	S
40-60m	E
40-60m	W
40-60m	S

If a child has a small amount of learning intentions highlighted on 22-36m gap sheet then that child's score would be **22-36E (Emerging in 22-36m)**

If they had several highlighted and perhaps with some from the next one their score would be **22-36W**

**(Working Within 22-36m)**

If they had all or most with some from the next one then their score would be **22-36S (Secure in 22-36m)**

E= Emerging  
W= Working Within  
S= Secure

## Family Breakfast

“Come and join us for breakfast”.

We would like to invite you to join us for a continental breakfast (to include pastries, fruit, yoghurt, cereals and fruit juice) on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March from 8-8.45am. As this is our first breakfast event, we will need to limit attendees to those parents and children who usually attend nursery on a Wednesday. Please see reply slip for food order and R.S.V.P by wed 13<sup>th</sup> March 2019.



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## Birthday cakes and treats

We are happy for children to bring in cakes and treats to share with their friends for birthday celebrations, but must remind you that we need the original packaging – if shop bought, or an ingredients list if homemade.

This “Chef Recipe Card” is our preferred method of providing information to help us in keeping the children attending nursery safe from allergens.

Thank you.

ALLERGENS: CHEF RECIPE CARDS				
Dish/ingredient:				
Date:		Chef:		
 Celery <input type="checkbox"/>	 Cereals containing gluten <input type="checkbox"/>	 Crustaceans <input type="checkbox"/>	 Eggs <input type="checkbox"/>	 Fish <input type="checkbox"/>
 Lupin <input type="checkbox"/>	 Milk <input type="checkbox"/>	 Molluscs <input type="checkbox"/>	 Mustard <input type="checkbox"/>	 Nuts <input type="checkbox"/>
 Peanuts <input type="checkbox"/>	 Sesame seeds <input type="checkbox"/>	 Soya <input type="checkbox"/>	 Sulphur dioxide <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>TICK THE ALLERGENS WHICH ARE IN THE DISH</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Notes:				
Reviewed and checked by:				



Living Eggs- booked for 11<sup>th</sup> March 2019. The eggs will arrive sometime on the 11<sup>th</sup> and be located in Holiday Club for rooms and parents to visit until collection on the 22<sup>nd</sup> when they will be collected.

## Breastfeeding

“I have recently trained as a Breastfeeding Peer Supporter. I am volunteering at the Breastmates Group at Lower Shaw Farm and at the Great Western Hospital. I would like to extend this support to North Star Nursery too.

I can offer support and information with breastfeeding, including latching, milk supply, expressing, any concerns, problems and questions. I am here to offer support during your breastfeeding journey with any age child (including younger siblings and newborns).

I will be available for pre-booked appointments on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

We have signed up to the Breastfeeding Welcome Scheme in Swindon, which means we offer a safe and welcoming place for breastfeeding mothers.”

Nicky (Explorers)



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£75.00

Grief support for children and young people in Wiltshire



We would like to thank the parents of children at and staff from North Star Nursery for their generous donation towards the work of our child bereavement programme in Swindon. Your support will make a real difference to the lives of sad and often isolated children and young people and for this we are very grateful.

As you may know, we provide safe and inclusive groups, activities for children, their families and for young people (5-25yrs). The family sessions allow children to express their feelings through art and other avenues. One parent wrote *"I remember feeling relieved knowing that my son would be able to spend time with other children in a similar situation"*. Children told us that *"I often feel very sad but I feel safe here"* - *"It's easier to talk to people here, it helped me open up"* - *"Thank you for helping us get through"* - *"We just want someone who'll be there and help us get through it, thank you"*.

Our programme for young people (NEST) uses creative processes designed to support these individuals through their various stages of grief. At the end of a recent group we asked 'What would have happened if you hadn't been involved with Wiltshire Treehouse e.g. how would you feel about yourself?' One of the young people responded *"I probably would still be really upset and frustrated with myself. I also would be in bad moods at school still."*

We have a small number of paid staff and volunteers play a central role in the delivery of our services. Each volunteer receives ongoing support and undertakes a four-day training programme in collaboration with Child Bereavement UK, our charity partner.

For further information and details of how to support Wiltshire Treehouse, please visit our website at <http://www.treehousewiltshire.org.uk/>



### **Bus Wash**

On Friday, 15 February we took all the children (and rather a lot of excited adults!) on a bus wash. We met the brand new double-decker Stagecoach bus at the College and our driver, Adrian, took us for a ride through some of the streets of Swindon before ending up at the Stagecoach depot in Cheney Manor. Our under 2's were in fine voice as they sang *The Wheels on the Bus*.

At the depot, we were treated to a trip through the bus wash, not once, but twice, where we could see the brushes and bubbles scrubbing away. Some of the children liked to press their faces up against the windows and draw patterns in the condensation.

After the bus was clean, we took a drive back to the College where the children were allowed to sit in the driver's seat and honk the horn!

We all had great fun – in fact it may be fair to say that some of the adults enjoyed it just as much as the children!



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