



# North Star Nursery Parent Newsletter

July 2017

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Hours: - 8.00am – 5.45pm

Dear All,

Welcome to another informative newsletter that will keep you up to date with nursery news.

## **Staffing**

We will be saying goodbye to Lauren from Explorers who leaves us on 21<sup>st</sup> July to begin work as Community Co-ordinator for Wiltshire Council. Also farewell to Hannah from Pioneers who leaves us on 31<sup>st</sup> July. Hannah will be travelling to Australia to work as an au pair.

There will be some changes to staffing across the nursery. Staff will move rooms to accommodate the flow through of children, training needs and new staff.

## **Front Door**

Please make sure you close the door behind you. Especially, if you have propped it open to allow you to manoeuvre a buggy or car seat. It will stay open unless you pull it closed. In addition, please do not let anyone in behind you or hold the door open for others. Every person entering must ring the bell either for the office staff to give the "ok" or for room staff to come and open the door. Thank you for your help in this matter.

## **Policy and Procedure Headlines**

Several policies are being reviewed during July including Equality and Diversity. If you have any feedback on these do please let us know.

## **Nursery Birthday**



We celebrated our 25<sup>th</sup> Birthday on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2017 – NORTH STAR FEST- thank you to those who were able to join us. A special thank you to Gaz who came along to entertain us with his guitar playing.

## **Thank you**

*Cake sale on 20<sup>th</sup> June*

We raised £83.00 for new equipment purchases. Thank you to all who brought, sold and baked.

Thank you to all the parents who have come into nursery to read and share books with the children. They have enjoyed these storytelling sessions immensely.



## Going on Holiday

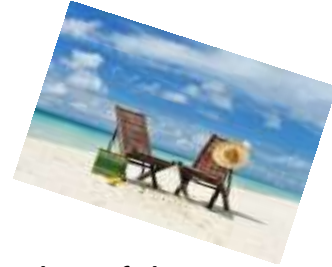
**Please do let us know of any absences** in advance... also did you know that we have two friends who can travel with you?

Colin the cockerel and Hettie the Hen like to travel the world and see different sights. They have an information board outside Discoverers logging where they have been and who they went with.

If you would like to take part in this learning opportunity with your child, do please make a request to the room staff.

All we ask is for a postcard and a photo in return.

Many thanks



## 30 hours funding

I know many of you have been waiting to hear about the implementation of the new funding scheme. Please see the quote below, issued by the Committee.

"Swindon Borough Council have now confirmed the details for the 30 hours free Early Years childcare provision, for 3 and 4 year olds, which is due to be implemented fully from September 2017.

We are pleased to inform you that North Star Nursery will be offering the full 30 hours provision for those families eligible to receive it. For those families who are only eligible for the 15 hours universal childcare, we will of course continue offering this as before.

The nursery will be running workshops for parents and carers on how to apply for the funding, and how the hours can be used. We will be in touch shortly regarding the timings of these. In the meantime, you can find out more by going to <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>."

### Dates for your diary

- 30 hours funding workshop Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July at 4pm – Please fill in and return the reply slip below stating if you wish to attend and listing any questions that you may have.
- Parents play session on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July at 4.15pm
- Holiday Club starts on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July and runs through until Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> August
- Parent workshop -Potty training and Helping your child sleep - Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September at 12.15pm

### Sainsbury Active Kids Vouchers

Sainsbury Active Kids Voucher scheme has ended for this year. Our final count has been made and we have purchased equipment from our wish list which will start to arrive in October 2017. Thanks for helping with this venture.

The items we have purchased are:

- Hedgehog stones
- Juggling scarves
- Pop up target
- Balance kit
- Fruit and vegetables food set
- Sensory mood cube

Also sign up for [Easyfundraising.org](https://www.easyfundraising.org) for online shopping fundraising whilst you shop.

**School risers**



Please remember to give the required one month’s notice as minimum to cancel your childcare contract in time for when your child starts school (sooner would be great). Otherwise we will continue to invoice you for your contracted sessions.

If you feel you will be needing some support with childcare in September whilst your child settles into school, please speak to us about your needs. If we can assist we will - the sooner you let us know, the sooner we can add the details to our plan. We do have new children joining us in September so places are likely to be minimal.

**Change of Childcare Voucher Provider**

We have received notice that the Research Councils are changing their childcare voucher company. The new provider will be Edenred. We are already registered with Edenred and our account number is P20087652. You will need this number when registering with them. Please remember to organise your voucher payments so that the payment reaches our account on or before the 14<sup>th</sup> of every month.

Thank you  
Sharon Toolen

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**R.S.V.P**

I/we .....would like to attend the 30 hours funding workshop on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July @ 4pm.

I would like to discuss/ find out the answers to the questions below.

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Thank you