



**The Duckling Nursery Ltd**  
**Writtle Infant School**  
**Lodge Road**  
**Writtle**  
**CM1 3HZ**  
7<sup>th</sup> September 2020

## **Newsletter 2020/E**

### **Welcome**

Welcome back everyone. We are very excited to see our Ducklings return after a rather strange and somewhat unusual summer break. We would also like to welcome Mabel O, Odhran, Hannah, Florence, Mabel D, Poppy-Joe, Fern, Maria, Emma, Sophia, Maisy, George, Luca, Dylan B, Milo C, Amelia S, Betsy and Eduard into Ducklings and wish them many happy times with us.

### **Arrival information**

Please can all adults sanitise their hands using the sanitiser provided before entering the nursery. We will only be allowing one adult and one child into the cloakroom at a time and we would encourage social distancing when waiting on the ramp. Once in the nursery the children will say goodbye and go straight into the bathroom to wash their hands and parents will leave the nursery via the back door. Please could we request that you leave the playground as quickly as possible? We appreciate this may take some time to get all the children into the nursery safely but hope you will support us during this time.

### **Self-registration**

The children will continue to self-register however this is a little different to before. Their nametags will in a basket on the table at the bottom of the ramp. The children will find their name and then hook them onto our new train track tree by the front door. Each group has a designated area in the cloakroom for the children to hang their coats. Duckling backpacks will continue to be hung on the hooks on the handrail along the ramp.

### **Lunch boxes**

There are now four large plastic boxes one for each group which the children can pop their lunchboxes in.

### **Water Bottles**

We would now like all children to have their own water bottles in nursery. We will continue to provide snack but the children will have their water bottles rather than milk or water in cups. There will be a designated place to store the bottles, and the children will be able to access them throughout the day.

### **Wellies and slippers**

Please can I remind you that all children will need wellies and slippers to keep at nursery? During the first couple of weeks, fingers crossed the weather stays fine the children will keep their shoes on. Once everyone has settled into nursery life we will introduce slippers and wellies.

### **Toys/comforters**

Please can we request that the children do not bring any toys or books into the nursery? We are very happy for them to bring in comforters during their settling in period.

**Water bottles, lunch boxes, wellies, slippers, clothing and shoes should be clearly named.**

**We will be doing our very best to keep the children, their families and staff safe and well during the coming months but it goes without saying that we all must remain vigilant in the current situation.**

## **Duckling changes**

During the last five months we had to make many changes in Ducklings and one was the way in which the children were grouped in their bubbles. These consisted of mixed ages and we recognised how our oldest and youngest Ducklings benefited from these groupings. The older children were so caring, kind and responsible for the younger ones and subsequently the younger Ducklings learnt so much from the older children. The interaction, communication, fun and learning was delightful to witness. Consequently from September each key group will now consist of children of mixed ages and resemble little family groups.

Key group leaders, assistants and children

### **Rainbows – Mrs Park and Miss Briscoe**

Samuel, Annabelle, Ronnie, Finley, Mabel O, Amelia B, Rex, Milo H, Florence, Eva, Odhran and Hannah

### **Suns – Mrs Nicholls and Miss Bayes**

Charlie, Dylan N, Felix, Albie, Molly, Wilf, Melody, Poppy-Joe, Milo C, Lois, Mabel D and Fern

### **Moons – Miss Mattacks and Miss Suckling**

Leo, Emma, Matilda, Ellis, Arti, Lowen, David, Sophia, Elliot, Maria, Maisy and George

### **Stars – Mrs Moore and Miss Fulker**

Annabel, Alfie, Betsy, Noah, Dorothy, Arthur, Darcie, Luca, Dylan B, Eduard and Amelia S

## **Planning**

Our planning system will also change and will now allow for each member of staff to plan for a whole weeks key group activities focusing on different sub topics from the main topic of the term. The details of the weekly topic and who has planned the activities will be displayed on the planning window.

We will also have focus groups taking place throughout the day and little clubs for approximately 20/30 minutes in the afternoons. These will include topics such as, gardening club, phonics club, building club, theatre club, woodwork club and many more. These will also be detailed on the planning window.

The children will still have lots of time to engage in free play with their peers.

**Wake and Shake, Quiet and Calm Yoga, Time to Talk, Outside Learning, Cooking and PE will all continue.**

## **Our topic for the autumn term is:**

**Games and activities we love to play  
Having fun each and every day  
We love to share our many toys  
With our friends, the girls and boys.**

**Our Mummies and Daddies and Grandparents too  
Loved to play games like me and you  
New games and old games will be such fun  
Together let's explore them one by one.**

## **Friends of Ducklings**

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> November for our Autumn/Christmas Faye.**

This is a provisional date for your diaries for this annual event. I will keep you updated if and when it will be possible to arrange a meeting and whether this event will be able to go ahead. Many parents left Friends of Ducklings last term due to their children moving onto big school. We would love to chat with any new parents who would like to know more about this group and hopefully join us in the future.

**Mrs Homer**