

Welcome Back!



Queen Marys

Newsletter

January 2020

It has been lovely welcoming both new and existing families back to nursery after the Christmas break, although this now seems such a long time ago. We are pleased to note that our new children and those who have recently moved into new rooms are settling well. If this applies to your child, you should by now have been informed who their new key carer is. If this is not the case, please speak to Debbie or Sarah.

Staff News

We are pleased to let you know that some of the team are just about to embark on training courses to increase their level of qualification whilst another has just five months more study before completing her Foundation Degree.

Caring for the environment

At our recent staff meeting we decided that we would like to do our best, as a nursery, to become more environmentally aware and make changes in the way we do things. This is likely to be something of an ongoing project but to start with we would like to ask you to put a BAG FOR LIFE in with the bag your child brings to nursery each day. We will use this for any wet clothes that need to go home rather than continue with our current arrangement, which is to place wet clothes in nappy sacks.

This is just the start but every small step we take will

This is just the start of some of the changes we would like to make but every little step we take will make a difference.

If you have any thoughts or ideas about other measures we can take, please let us know.

VEGETARIAN DAY

The Slice of Pie menu includes a daily vegetarian option and this always sounds really inviting. So, we have decided that we would like to trial having one Vegetarian day a week. We have started with lunch and, once this is established, will then choose a vegetarian option for tea. This idea will, we hope, continue to extend the range of foods children have and introduce them to new tastes. We will note on the blackboard in each building if it is a Vegetarian Day. We will review this arrangement after half term to see how it is working out.



Ask Before you Bin It - what you might think of as useless could be priceless to us.

We can make use of any of the following: string, wool, shells, pegs, wooden or metal curtain rings; kitchen tools and pots and pans, home accessories and appliances e.g. cushions, rugs, boxes, baskets, hair dryer, kettle, flower pots

Please ask before you bin – we may be able to make use of things that you no longer want

Please use the lock on the main gate every time you enter or leave the nursery site. Despite the letter I recently sent out, a parent left the main gate open on Thursday 23rd and a 3-year old went running down the drive ahead of their parent and out of the gate. Luckily they stopped before running across the road to the family car. This child could have been seriously hurt if a car was coming along the road. YOU MUST SHUT THE GATE !!!

BURNS NIGHT – The children tried haggis, tatties and neeps on Friday 24 January to celebrate Burns Night. They also listened to bagpipe music and some did some Highland Dancing, thanks to Michelle.

January 2020

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE AND PHOTOGRAPHER'S commission

Thank you everyone who bought photographs and/or raffle tickets. We managed to raise a fantastic £150 which we intend putting toward resources to support our wish to provide the children with Forest School experiences. We will put out a list of the items we are buying in the very near future.

We still have some wonderful prizes left and will therefore hold another raffle just before Easter.

Ronald and Harold (the guinea pigs) are a real hit with all our nursery children. The guinea pigs love eating dandelion leaves so if you have any in your gardens, please bring them in. We would also welcome old newspapers for their cage.

The Garrison Winter Magazine

Check out page 35 which features an article on The Joys of Transient Art together with a couple of photos of beautiful creations completed by some of our talented artists here at Queen Mary's

Nursery Calendar for 2020 Events

See below for dates of events/activities planned so far for 2020. We will provide you with further details as the dates get closer but, in the meantime please note the following and add them to your diaries. If you have any suggestions, please let us know – we would love to include your ideas. Or, if you are going to be celebrating something at home, let us know if we can share in the celebration at nursery.

Monday 3 – Friday 5 February – Storytelling week. Would you like to come in and share a story? Just speak to your child's key person. Check out Tapestry for information about why storytelling is so important for children in their early years

Tuesday 25 February – Shrove Tuesday or Pancake Day!

Thursday 5 March – World Book Day – Come to nursery dressed in your pyjamas. **We will be having a focus on books throughout the whole of this week. More info to follow**

Monday 9 – Friday 13 March – British Science Week – Theme 'Our diverse planet' – activities will relate to science, technology, engineering and maths

Sunday 22 March – Mother's Day Staff are planning to invite mums (or dads or another special person in your child's life in to nursery either before or after 22 March. Details to follow.

Thursday 9 April – Join us for Hot Cross Buns

Wednesday 17 June – Eat your vegetables Day

Sunday 21 June – Father's Day

Staff are planning to invite dads (or mums or another special person in your child's life in to nursery either before or after 21 June. Details to follow.

Saturday 27 June – Armed Forces Day. Can you come in and do something with the children on 26 June?

Wednesday 15 July – Graduation and Leaver's Picnic for children going to school (full-time education) in September

Nursery Calendar for 2020 - Term dates

Monday 17 to Friday 21 February – Half term – no nursery for term-time only children *(if you need childcare during this week, please speak with Debbie)*

Monday 6 – Friday 17 April – Easter holidays - no nursery for term-time only children *(if you need childcare during this week, please speak with Debbie)*

Friday 10 and Monday 13 April – Nursery closed for the Easter bank holidays

Friday 8 May – Nursery Closure – Early May Bank Holiday

Monday 25 May – Nursery Closure – Late May Bank Holiday

Monday 25 – Friday 29 May - Half term – no nursery for term-time only children *(if you need childcare during this week, please speak with Debbie)*

Friday 17 July – last day of term for funded term-time only children

Monday 20 July - **NURSERY CLOSURE** – We will be having an inset training day

Wednesday 22 July – Last day of nursery for non-funded term time only children

