

NURSERY ROUTINE

3 + year olds

Updated 17/05/21

- 9.20am Children are let into the setting; they put their lunch box on the blue trolley (ready to be transferred to the fridges), water bottle on the table and book bag in the tray. Children are taken to the bathroom to wash their hands. Children find their name card (these have pictures on to aid recognition). Children stick name cards onto the snack board. The register is taken by a member of staff on entry to nursery.
- 9.20 to 10.20am **This is 'free-play'**. There will be a 'Key Activity' which is usually adult led, plus a variety of other activities, many of which the children will be able to undertake on their own. During this time, activities on offer will be a selection from the following:
CRAFT ACTIVITY: cutting and gluing, painting.
CONSTRUCTION: wooden bricks, stickle bricks, magnetic construction, lego, wooden shape building puzzles, etc
SMALL WORLD: train track, cars and garage, dolls house, farm, dinosaurs
DRAWING TABLE: pencils, crayons, felt tip pens, chalks and blackboards, pens and wipe-boards, stencils, selection of paper.
IMAGINATIVE PLAY: kitchen, playfood and utensils, dolls, dressing up, doctors equipment, tent, mirrors, puppets, table and chairs.
SENSORY ACTIVITY: different types of playdough with cutters, rolling pins, scissors, sand and water (lots of interesting items are used in conjunction with these activities; they are often linked to the theme of the term).
MATHEMATICAL/PROBLEM SOLVING ACTIVITY: jigsaws, pattern and/or shape sorters, weighing scales, problem solving resources.
BOOK CORNER: our bookcase is positioned in a quiet corner. The children can look at the books whenever they wish, and an adult will always read stories if a child is in that area. We have a selection of books, some will be linked to the theme of the term, others will be picture books, 'lift the flap' books, storybooks and information books. The books are rotated so unfamiliar books are available each week.
- 10.20am **Tidy up time**. This is signalled by a piece of music being played. All children are encouraged to help tidy away the resources. Resources are taken by staff to be cleaned.
- 10.25am to 10.35am After the resources are tidied away the children are encouraged to gather on the carpet to join in with singing nursery rhymes and the song of the week.
- 10.35 to 10.45am We currently operate a '**group snack**' system. The 'officer of the day' helps to prepare the snack with a member of staff. Snack consists of fresh fruit or vegetables, a wholesome snack like toast, pitta pockets etc. and a drink from their drink bottle (any dietary needs are taken into account). Children always wash their hands beforehand and help themselves to snack, support is always available if required. Snack time is a social occasion enabling children to extend their language and encourage good social skills.
- 10.45 to 10.55am Keyworkers support independence by encouraging the children to get their coats and wellingtons on if needed ready for **large physical playtime outside**. Children are also invited to use the bathroom (before going to the secret garden).
- 10.55am to 11.30am **Large Physical Playtime**. This may take place either in the garden attached to nursery, our secret garden or at the park depending upon the weather. Equipment on offer includes; trikes, tunnel, ball pool, seesaw, bats and balls, trampoline, parachute, gardening and digging tools, slide, sand pit, mud kitchen, large climbing equipment, prams/pushchairs with dollies. At the park; swings, slide, balancing equipment, climbing beams.
- 11.30am to 11.40am The children return to nursery and are encouraged to take off coats and wellingtons independently but with support if needed.
- 11.40am to 12.00pm **Small group time**. The children split in to their small groups and carry out a letters and sounds activity, play an educational or sound/phonic game, talk about the letters/number/shape/colour of the week, develop improved pencil control through stencils, tracing or 'free' drawing or collaborate and choose an activity they would like to do, or finish off or even extend the key activity for the day.

- 12.00pm **Toilet and wash hand time.** An adult begins to change all nappies/or sit children on the toilet/potty, wash hands. Others finish their activities and help adults tidy away. (Those who are able, can use the toilet whenever they need to. All children are shown to wash their hands after every visit to the toilet, even if they have had their nappies changed. Those children who are toilet training can bring in their own potty if they prefer. Please advise staff if toilet training is underway, so we can help!) Children who have finished using the bathroom return to the carpet area.
- 12.00pm **Story time.** These are often linked to the theme, but not always. Children can bring books in from home to be shared if they wish. Story time is kept short and we encourage all children to sit on individual cushions and listen to the story. Adults will always sit on the carpet to encourage listening. Should children wish to continue with their quiet play/outside play or enjoy a book on their own they are free to do this.
- 12.05pm **Weather and Date record.** At the carpet area we all sing our weather song and 'Bernie' the monkey will help the children record the weather outside and the day of the week. 'Bernie' has a selection of clothes that are suitable for different types of weather and children take turns each day to dress him appropriately.
- 12.10pm **Home Achievement Books.** This is a time where we celebrate the children's achievements at home by reading their parents comments in their books. This special time increases children's self-esteem and confidence. They are rewarded with a sticker and a round of applause from everyone!
- 12.15pm **Music and movement or action songs.** We introduce different types of music and accompany their movements with streamers, musical instruments etc. All music and movement sessions are finished with a warm down song.
- 12.20pm All children sit at the table for **lunchtime.** They are invited to identify their place by finding their own lunchbox once an adult has shown their name card. Children are encouraged to eat savoury items before any sweet ones. Children can bring a separate lunch drink or use their drink bottles brought in that morning. Keyworkers sit with the children supporting and encouraging their independence. When they have finished eating they are encouraged to tidy away any mess, place their lunchbox back on the lunch trolley.
- 12.50pm As they finish lunch children are encouraged to gather on the carpet to share books and stories with each other to encourage their early literacy, language, communication and personal, social and emotional skills. Keyworkers will join them in their story telling or discussions. When the majority of children have finished their lunch, they will be given the option to play in the courtyard garden.
- 1.10pm **Mindfulness** The children leaving the nursery at 1.20pm will be encouraged to take part in mindfulness activities. Children staying for extended session remain in the garden for some free play before starting the extended activity.
- 1.15pm Children leaving at 1.20pm will return to the carpet and finish off with songs including our 'goodbye' song which is sung to each child individually saying their name as we go.
- 1.20pm **Parents/carers collect their children** Children are released to their parents who are waiting outside the nursery (queuing towards the secret garden) one at a time. A member of staff will ensure that each child's belongings are gathered, including coat, lunchbox, book bag etc. and are ready accordingly. Parents/carers have the opportunity to discuss anything about their child's day, confidentially if need be.
- 1.20pm to 2.20pm *Children in their last year with us before Reception have the option to join us for our **extended sessions.** Children engage in fun activities that are completely different to the morning session. All of our extended sessions are carefully planned with the children's interest and developmental needs in mind.*

Once all children have been collected the staff write up any observations made during the morning, complete session plans, mount any work, organise wall displays and prepare for the following session.