**Rephad Values:** Aspirational; Creative; Hardworking; Inclusive; Resilient; Respectful



**Rephad Nursery Newsletter**

With Christmas fast approaching, the children have shown an increased interest in the festivities so we have decided to focus on this in the run up to the holidays. As part of this, we will be looking at: the Christmas nativity story, discussing the benefits of giving and receiving and being creative by making Christmas crafts to take home.

**Christmas Show (3-5s)**

This year, our 3-5 year old children will be performing the Nativity story for parents/carers to celebrate Christmas on Tuesday, 20th December at 10am. This will take place within the school hall. Tickets will be available to buy from nursery staff from Monday, 12th December. These are priced at £1 per ticket and will be limited to 2 tickets per family, initially. We expect the performance will last no more than 30 minutes. Afterwards, there will be free refreshments, at which time you can also take some individual photographs of your child. Children will then be accompanied by staff back to the nursery, whilst we draw the raffle.

We would be grateful for any raffle donations, i.e. baking, bottles, gift sets, etc. Many thanks.

If your child does not usually attend on this day, please discuss with their key worker so we can make arrangements for their attendance. Likewise, if your child will not be attending, we would appreciate if you could let us know to review parts.

**Christmas Party**

A reminder that our nursery Christmas party will take place on Thursday, 22nd December within our normal nursery session. Please note that this is an amended date, due to a certain visitor not being able to make the previous date of 23rd December. Children are invited to wear their party clothes/festive clothing/non-uniform for the day but please be aware that we will also have outdoor play available at intervals throughout the session.

**Staff changes**

Unfortunately, Miss Jardine has moved on to pastures new. Taking her place in the Early Years Support Assistant role will be Miss Louise Douglas. We are yet to confirm a start date for her, but hope for her to be in post before the Christmas holidays.

**Christmas Lunch**

The annual Christmas Lunch will take place on Friday, 9th December during our nursery session. If your child attends for lunch on this day, nursery staff will get their order directly from them during the nursery session.

Due to children’s stage of development, an online order will be sent to parents/carers of our 2-year-old children.

**Christmas Jumper Day**

The nursery will be celebrating Christmas Jumper day also, on 9th December. Children are invited to wear their Christmas jumper in place of their nursery jumper/cardigan on this day.

**Toys in Nursery**

We love that children want to show and share some of their toys from home, however, we have found the volume of toys being brought in from home has increased greatly since our return from the October break. This is causing some upset amongst children as other children also want to play with these and do not understand that they belong to others. Some children also become upset due to damage that has occurred to their toys or their toys becoming lost. We would appreciate, therefore, if toys could be kept at home or in the car, to minimise the incidences of toys becoming, lost, broken or others becoming upset. We will plan to have a show & tell event later in the year to enable children to show off their prized items from home. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

**January New Start Information**

If you have, or know someone with, a child due to start nursery in January, please make them aware that welcome information has been emailed to them, if they have not already checked their inbox. We will be, once again, welcoming our new children in to nursery for some transition sessions and more information will be shared with parents/carers of our new starts at that time.

**Christmas Post**

If you would like to send out Christmas cards from your child this year, the nursery Christmas post service will run from Monday 12th – Friday 16th December. You can utilise the post box within the main reception area to post your cards and these will be popped in children’s trays to take home with them. Lists of names can be requested from your child’s key worker.

**Parental Engagement**

We want to extend our thanks to parents/carers that have managed to make it along to our Stay & Play, Peep and Bookbug sessions over the last few weeks – it has been lovely getting everyone back in to the setting!

Stay & Play will return next term, for those who didn’t get a chance to make it or those who wish to come again. Peep will now run bi-weekly for our 2-year-olds & 3-5s, with weeks alternating (this is so that Miss Jolly can plan events and activities to meet different stages of development). The next peep session for your child’s age group will be displayed in reception. Miss Dewar has recently completed her official Bookbug Leader training and this will continue to run each Thursday 2-3pm until the end of term. Please note, there is no sign up sheet for Bookbug sessions – you can simply show up.

**Dates for your diary**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **8th Dec** | **2pm-3pm** | **Bookbug Session** |
| **12th Dec** | **2pm-3pm** | **Peep Session (3-5s)** |
| **12th Dec** | **3.15pm-4pm** | **January new start stay & play session (with parents/carers)** |
| **15th Dec** | **2pm-3pm** | **Bookbug Session** |
| **19th Dec** | **2pm-3pm** | **Peep Session (2-year-olds)** |
| **19th Dec** | **1.45pm-2.30pm** | **January new start stay & play session (without parents/carers)** |
| **20th Dec** | **10am** | **Nursery nativity for 3-5s (all children can attend to take part in this event and further information will follow).** |
| **20th Dec** | **2pm** | **Nurture Room sing-a-long (parents/carers of 2-year-olds)** |
| **22nd Dec** |  | **Nursery Christmas party day** |



***We would like to take this opportunity to thank all parents/carers for their cooperation and support, as always, during a busy two terms. We hope all of our families have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and look forward to seeing you all in 2023!***

A picture containing drawing

Description automatically generatedRephad Nursery Team