



Westfield Nursery School  
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Headteacher: Mrs Elizabeth Collins BA(QTS) NPQH



September 2023

## Newsletter No 1 2023-2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

### Headteacher Update

Firstly, a warm welcome to our new parents/carers and pupils, we hope you have settled in well to nursery life.

And a big hello to our returning parents/carers and pupils, who we hope had a lovely summer holiday, despite the unreliable weather.

As many of you will be aware, Mrs Collins, our Headteacher, is currently undergoing treatment for breast cancer. Her treatment is ongoing which means unfortunately, she won't be able to return this term.

### Our learning

In Bumble Bee's they have been settling into nursery and learning about babies, with their key words being 'Baby', 'Hello' & 'Goodbye'. The book they have been reading is 'One Mole Digging a Hole'. Activities have included washing baby dolls and playing with cars in flour & porridge oats.

Dragonflies have been learning 'All About Me', talking about feelings and emotions, i.e. sad, happy, angry & proud. They have been reading 'The Colour Monster' book and will this week be making 'people' pizzas, using wraps, healthy toppings' and people cutters.

In Ladybirds they have also been learning 'All About Me & My Family', this has been through using

family puzzles, Mr Potato Heads and building block houses. They have been reading a book called '5 Minutes Peace' and their keywords are brother, sister, ear, eyes and nose.

Caterpillars theme has been 'Colours' and they have been reading an 'Elmer & Wilbur' book. They have then been making Elmer collage pictures, carrying out colour sorting, using coloured rice to make collages and will be using coloured paint this week. Their key words are red, blue, yellow & purple.

Butterflies have been learning about their feelings and have been using different coloured paints to show how they are feeling. They have also been drawing faces and are reading 'The Colour Monster' book, with keywords being happy, sad & angry.

### **Staffing**

We would like to extend a warm welcome to Miss Wells who started with us in September in Butterfly class.

### **Absences**

A polite reminder that all absences need to be reported to the office via Parentmail/Email or a phone call.

### **Early Language Support**

Please find attached a poster from the School Readiness team - this has details of where to go if you have any concerns about your child's speech.

### **Domestic Abuse**

Please see attached a support services poster which has been co-produced by Central Beds Council along with their Domestic Abuse Authentic Voice Panel.

It provides details for a range of services, some local to CBC and some national. Further support services for those experiencing domestic abuse can be found at [www.bedsdv.org.uk](http://www.bedsdv.org.uk)

### **Fit and Active Together**

This is a 13 week program and includes a free creche – see attached poster for further details.

### **Parenting Puzzle Course**

Central Bedfordshire Council is running a FREE course for parents and carers of children aged 2-5 years.

The Parenting Puzzle course will help you understand different types of behaviour and explore different parenting styles, helping to build positive relationships with your children.

See attached poster for further details.

### **School Admissions**

If your child was born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020, they will start school in September 2024 – please see attached poster with details on how to apply for their school place.

### **Understanding Emotions and Behaviour of Children that are Neurodiverse (Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities)**

Central Beds Council are running some workshops for parents of SEND children – see attached poster for further details.

### **Childrens Centre Activities**

Attached is the timetable of activities being run by the Childrens Centres.

### **The Nurturing Program**

This is a 10 week programme for Parents/Carers on how to get the best out of life – it covers many area's such as Understanding, Recognising, Finding, Exploring and Learning – further details can be found on the attached document.

### **Mental Health Support Services Bulletin**

Attached is a bulletin which details many different ways of accessing mental health support.

### **Early Help Financial Support Bulletin**

There is lots of advice on the attached bulletin relating to support available for those struggling financially.

### **Health and Safety**

Please do not allow your child to play on the equipment in the garden as you collect them. We do not want any accidents, thank you.

Can you please ensure that any buggies left at nursery are placed safely and do not block any entrances/exits – these can cause issues in any emergency evacuation.



### **Access to Nursery**

Please only use the footpath to get into Nursery rather than going through Beecroft's car park. Parents/Carers should not be opening the gates to our car parks. This is to ensure the safety of all parents/carers, children and car drivers.

When dropping your child off, please do not go into the playground – drop off is at the gates.

### **Fruit**

Thank you for your continuing donations of fruit for your children's snack time – it is greatly appreciated. As are the food donations for our Guinea Pigs.



### **Clothing**

Could you please remember to name all items coming into Nursery, including clothes, jackets, hats, sunglasses.

If you have any unwanted clothes aged 3-4 or 4-5 we would be grateful to receive them.



### **Toddler Group Reminder**

We hold a community toddler group every Thursday from 1.00-2.30pm term time only in Bumblebees class and garden. Our grateful thanks to Dunstable Locality Children's Centre as the children's centre staff will now be hosting our toddler group.



### **Key Dates**

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September – Macmillan Coffee morning – 8:45 to 9:45 & 12:30 to 1:30 – we would be grateful for any donations of cakes to support this fund-raising event.

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October – Harvest Celebration – this is an event for the children only - please send in any long-life food donations, i.e. tins, packets & cartons. These will then be given to the Salvation Army to distribute.

Friday 6<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> October – Parents/Carers are invited in to come into nursery and read a book with their child – 8:45 to 9:00 & 12:30 to 12:45

### **Term Dates**

20.10.23 – last day before half term holiday. See you back here on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October.

