



# Sunflower Nursery Cambridge Newsletter



## Young Writers Competition

Last month Krystina, one of our Early Years Educators entered our pre-school children into a writing competition. All the entries were put in a book which children were offered to purchase, however this also coincided with a competition from the Company to win a prize for the nursery. We are pleased to announce we came runners up and won some reading books for our pre-school room! Well done everyone!



## February Events

**13<sup>th</sup> – Pancake Day** – Making pancakes and pancake races around the courtyard

**14<sup>th</sup> – Valentines Day** – Cake Sale in Reception made by the children (all proceeds to resources for the children in the nursery)

**14<sup>th</sup> – Pre School Visit to Richard Newcombe Court Care Home.** This is going to be a regular occurrence (See more information below). However on this visit, there may be media interest in it, so, if your child is in our pre-school and attends on Wednesdays, please see Molly to accept or decline your child's attendance at this particular visit.

**15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> – Chinese New Year** – Activities, Chinese Menu



## New Exciting Website!

I am pleased to announce that CHS Group and Sunflower Nurseries have a new Website!! Please take a look and let us know what you think. If you search on the CHS website for- Nurseries – Sunflower Cambridge, you can watch our video! Thank you to Shradha and Dan for their input on this.

<https://www.chsgroup.org.uk/>



## Sunflower Student Council

The first student Council meeting will be on 22<sup>nd</sup> February, Babi will be running this each month with the children and we will select 6 students (from Pre-School), including a Chair Person, Secretary and 4 council members. The council will be then able to make decisions on the nursery (food, activities, layout, resources, trips, etc). There will be a board in the reception where parents can see whose on the council and read what the council have decided and the minutes of the meeting.



## Guidance on Infections

Currently at the nursery you may have gathered that we have different types of infections going around, which is quite normal at this time of year. There is a statutory guidance on exclusion periods for infections, if you are unsure, please ask at the nursery. If your child is unwell, it is best they stay at home for cuddles with you, as if they reach a temperature of **38c or higher** we will call you to collect. We also have **conjunctivitis** in the nursery. There is no exclusion period on this, however it is highly contagious, and we suggest starting treatment before your child returns. If your child has symptoms (see NHS online) then please start treatment from a Doctor or chemist as soon as you can. We cannot give any medication at the nursery unless 'the bottle' has a certified doctors label on it. We also have had a few cases of **head lice** at the nursery. Again there is no exclusion period, however as with the conjunctivitis, you will need to start the treatment before you return your child to nursery.



## Tax Free Childcare

We are now able to accept tax free childcare payments. This scheme replaces the childcare vouchers, so from April 2018 those parents already signed up for child care vouchers can continue to receive them, but those who haven't will have to sign up for tax free childcare instead. Please see link for more details. NB: This is not at all linked to 30hrs funding.

<https://childcare-support.tax.service.gov.uk/par/app/eligibility>



## February Half Term

Please could you let the team know if your child will be absent during half term. Thank you.



## Combining Elderly Care and Childcare

We have started to attend regular visits to Richard Newcombe Court with our pre-schoolers. There has been a lot of press about this recently as we live in a society where care of young and old has always been segregated without the possibility of the two coming together, however recently there is research to prove this benefits both.

As CHS have both the providers we have decided to enable and promote this interaction.

The concept of these interactions is centred around the idea that old and young can bring new energy, knowledge and enthusiasm to each others' lives. Research has proven that these interactions can have fantastic benefits for each generation which increases self-esteem, promote friendships, social and emotional skills. Children can bring a new sense of vibrancy and fun to the elderly, so the focus is no longer on watching time pass but on living in the moment.

Both myself and the Pre-school team here believe that older people have the time, and skills that are often under utilised, for this kind of care to work, so putting a

shared care plan in place makes sense. I think that more research, funding, and government support is needed for these intergenerational schemes to become a central point for care in the UK in the future, but I believe it will happen.

Our next visit is on Valentines Day and the children are going to make valentines cards with the residents of Richard Newcombe Court and take cakes for them as a thank you gift.

Visit channel 4 website for a look at the documentary they did on this:

<http://www.channel4.com/programmes/old-peoples-home-for-4-year-olds>



## Opening Times Reminder

We are open from **8am – 6pm**. The staff are always available at these times for your children. However, they cannot provide a detailed handover if you pick up at 6pm as this will then be in their own time. If you do want more information on your child's day, please pick up sooner or email us for more information.

If you are late picking up your child after 6pm closure or want a detailed handover at this time, it will cost the nursery to provide two adults to be there with your child. Therefore we do charge late pickups at £5 for every 5 minutes for this reason.



## Sunflower T-Shirts and Hats

We are selling our sunflower t-shirts and summer hats now at the nursery. You can purchase a uniform pack which contains - **2 t-shirts and a hat** for **£10**. Please ask Alison in the office. You can pay for your pack with either cash or credit card.



## Its getting Cold and Wet Outside

Please could you remember to bring warm clothes to nursery for your children (hats, gloves, warm coat) all named. Also some children still don't have wellies at the nursery, please could you provide named wellies so your children can play outside in the wet weather.



## Who is at the door?

**Please remember we are all here to safeguard your children.** All our staff have been fully trained in Safeguarding and therefore are extra vigilant about who we let into the nursery! There may be an occasion where myself or another member of staff do not recognise you or a member of your family when coming to collect. Therefore please be patient as they will check with another adult about your identity before letting you in.

Please check the door closes behind you – the cold weather can cause the door to swell and sometimes sticks. Please can you check when entering and leaving. Thank you.



## Who is behind you?

Please also be extra vigilant when coming in and out of the nursery and check you know the person before letting them in. If you are not sure please do not let them in and check with a member of staff. Thank you.



## Dress for the occasion

Please remember that your child will be playing with paint, water, sand, glitter, glue, mud, etc at nursery. The children are encouraged to use aprons, but sometimes they still get messy. We recommend therefore that you don't put your child in their 'best outfit' as it may get dirty. The paint we use comes from a reliable nursery resources provider, however, it still may stain clothes, therefore, we cannot accept responsibility for clothes possibly getting stained or dirty when they are here.



## Resources Needed

Please do not throw away any old or unwanted items, the nursery may need them. We are always looking for ways for children to learn about the world around them in new learning opportunities we create at the nursery. Particularly old hairdryers, straighteners, boxes, Barbie furniture, dolls clothes, new-born clothes and white paper. If you're not sure, ask a member of staff. Thank you for your support.



## Facebook

If you wish to join our 'closed' facebook group. Please search Sunflower Cambridge and ask to join.



## Day Nurseries.co.uk

Please go to the Day Nurseries website and review us. Parents use this site to search for nurseries and we value your feedback as this will help new parents come to our nursery.

*If you need any information or would like to talk to myself or any of the staff here, please do not hesitate to contact us.*

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