



Newsletter

October 2017

The autumn term is well underway and the children have all been having lots of fun. As it gets colder please remember to send your child to nursery with a warm coat, hat, gloves and wellies so that we can continue to make good use of the garden.



30 hours free nursery education.

You may have seen that the Government are introducing a doubling of the free childcare which means some childcare settings will be offering 30 hours funded childcare. We are very pleased to say that at Manor Farm Day Nursery we have decided that we will be offering the full 30 hours. As you know we currently have 15 hour free entitlement for all 3 and 4 year olds. Now some 3 and 4 years olds will be entitled to an extra 15 hours. This can be used at any setting of your choice and can be used here at the nursery until the month before your child attends primary school, or you can split this funding between different settings, i.e. nursery and pre-schools. Not everyone is eligible, but everyone **will** still receive the 15 hours free childcare that is currently available.

The Eligibility rules for 30 hours free childcare are:

- Entitlement starts the term after your child's 3rd birthday.
- Both parents must be working - or the sole parent is working in a lone parent family
- Each parent earns, on average, a weekly minimum equivalent to 16 hours at National Minimum Wage or National Living Wage
- Each parent must have an annual income of less than £100,000
- You live in England

Further information is available to parents on the government website 'Childcare choices'
<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>

Wrens

In Wrens the children will be creating their own autumn display using lots of materials gathered while exploring the garden. Their sensory play will include exploring items such as conkers, fir cones, leaves and twigs. As Halloween approaches they will be getting messy with pumpkin play and other spooky crafts.



Robins

Robin's children will be looking at all things autumn and getting creative with leaves that they find on a leaf hunt. As Halloween gets closer watch out for ghosts, spooky masks and witches potions. November will see the children marking Diwali and bonfire night with lots of sparkly pictures. They will be making fireworks and looking at colour while exploring playdough, rice, sand and shaving foam.



Kingfishers



The theme in kingfishers is autumn and winter and the children will be talking about the weather and what they need to wear as it gets colder. They are going to explore ice painting, snow dough and printing with pine cones. There is also going to be lots of fun with carving pumpkins and making Halloween costumes.



Woodpeckers

The children have been exploring the texture of leaves and making handprint leaf pictures. The book of the month for October is Spinderella and they will be looking at spiders, counting legs, going on bug hunts and playing football. This will link with their Halloween crafts and pumpkin play. In November the book of the month will be Snail on the Whale and they are hoping to make model whales so would appreciate donations of cardboard boxes.

Drop off and collection times.

At Manor Farm we adhere to strict statutory requirements with regard to adult to child ratios. It is extremely important to ensure the safe care of all children that your child is not dropped off before the time they are booked in and he or she is collected on time.

Late collection will incur an additional fee of £5 for every 5 mins as detailed in your contract.

Please can we remind parents to call and inform us if your child is going to be absent for nursery for any reason. This allows us to adjust our ratios and dinner numbers. Thank you.

Please ensure you sign your child both IN and OUT of nursery each day. We need to account for all children at nursery to ensure the safety of your child in the unlikely event we have to evacuate the building for any reason.



Paying your invoice.

All invoices are issued on or around the first of the month and they detail the fees due for that month. These invoices must be paid by the 10th of the month.

A £25 late payment fee will be added to all invoices not paid by the due date.

Mobile phones.

We wish to remind parents and carers that you must not use your mobile phones in the Nursery at any time.



Facebook.

Please remember to like our Facebook page where you will find more news and information about what is going on in the nursery.



Dates for your diary

Halloween – be as spooky as you like, all children who are booked into nursery on **31st October** are welcome to come to nursery in a Halloween outfit.

Children in Need – Children in Need day is **Friday 17th November** and we are encouraging everyone to take part. We will have lots of activities on the day and for a small donation children can come to nursery in any fancy dress costume they like.

Photos – Creative Camera photographers will be in nursery on the **23rd November**

Christmas party – we will be having a Christmas party for all children and their families on Saturday **16th December**, more details will be available closer to the time.

End of term – the funded term ends on **Tuesday 19th December 2017**. All children who use funded only hours finish for Christmas on this day and return to nursery on Wednesday 3rd January 2018

Children who attend nursery all year round will finish for Christmas on **Friday 22nd December** and return to nursery on **Tuesday 2nd January 2018**.

Sue, Holly and the Manor Farm Team

Thank you again for your continuing support.