



Spring Term Newsletter 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

A big warm welcome to you all, whether this is your first term at Nursery or you are returning after the Christmas break. We hope you all had a lovely Christmas and wish you all a belated Happy New Year!

We have really enjoyed hearing all about the children's adventures over the holidays and we are looking forward to an exciting term ahead. The children have settled quickly and the children are continuing to enjoy our outdoor area.

Dates for your diaries

Half term - Monday 12th February – Friday 16th February 2024

Easter break - Friday 29th March – Friday 12th April 2024

Please remember....

Please ensure that your child has a named coat and a puddle suit as we learn outside every day. (Please be aware that some of the best learning can be very messy 😊)

Main gate

Going forwards we will be closing the main gates promptly at 9:00am. This is for safeguarding reasons to ensure that the gates are not open longer than necessary and also to enable the children to access the outdoor area earlier to enhance their learning. If you do not have other children to drop off at school please could we ask that you arrive by no later than 9:00am to drop off your child. If you have other siblings to drop off at school and the gate is closed when you arrive your child will need to come into the nursery via the office door. Please buzz on the door when you get here and Jo will see your child into nursery.

A polite reminder

Please may we ask for you to ensure the children are collected in a timely manner at the end of each session as late pick up's have a direct impact on our ratio's.

Session times are as follows:

Morning session: 08:45am – 11:45am

Afternoon session: 11:45am – 2:45pm

St Mary's Nursery, Camberley. Watchett's Recreation Ground, Park Road, Camberley, Surrey, GU15 2SR

Phone: 01276 581309 Email: office@stmarysnurserycamberley.co.uk

St Mary's Nursery, Camberley, is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation registered in England and Wales under charity number 1168824.
Registered address is as above.



Absence from nursery:

A gentle reminder that if your child is going to be absent from nursery to please call or email by the office by 9:30am to inform us as we have a duty of care to the children. If your child has an upset stomach they will not be able to return to the nursery until 48 hours has passed from the last episode of vomiting or diarrhea. Children who have had a high temperature or cough are unable to return to the nursery for 3 days from the onset of symptoms.

Medication:

If your child has been prescribed antibiotics, please do not send your child to nursery until 48 hours has passed from their first dose. If your child requires medication to be administered or kept at the nursery, it must be given to us in the original packaging complete with a prescription label bearing the child's name and dosage instructions. You will be asked to complete a medication form before staff can administer any medicine.

Children's Bags:

Please would you ensure that you send your child to nursery each day with a named bag containing ONLY the following:

- Spare clothes
- Nappies/Wipes (if applicable)

In order to keep all children safe we operate a bag checking policy each morning and afternoon. We ask that you do not leave any toys, food/sweets, creams, suncream or other medication in your child's bag. Please hand medication, creams and other such items to a member of staff on the door where they will be kept safe out of children's reach.

Snack

As a charity we rely on your kind donations of fruit and vegetables for the children's snack time each week. We would be very grateful if you could provide donations of fruit, vegetables and breadsticks if you are able. As you know this is an essential part of a healthy diet and the children really enjoy eating the fruit and vegetables that you provide.

If your child requires a dairy or gluten free diet, please would you provide a snack for them with their name on and we will ensure that this is given to them.

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We kindly ask that you do not send your child into nursery with their own snacks. Every child is offered a snack of fruit or breadsticks/crackers and a drink at nursery which they enjoy with their friends.

We politely ask that you ensure that your child does not come into nursery with any food in their hands or mouth as this could pose a choking hazard.

Lunch Boxes:

Thank you for your continued support in our campaign for healthy eating. Please can we ask that all parents avoid putting chocolate bars, nuts or any items of food that contain nuts in their child's lunch box e.g., Nuts as such Nakd, Trek or Graze bars, peanut butter sandwiches, and other spreads containing nuts such as Nutella.

Due to the severity of the problem, and to safeguard the children's wellbeing, it is important that we do not allow these items in the nursery setting.

Please refer to the board for items we cannot allow in the nursery due to them being a choking hazard.

Water bottles

Please would you send your children to Nursery with a named water bottle every day. We also ask that this be filled with water only; any other liquids will be discarded. Juice may be provided in their lunchbox. This is in line with Ofsted requirements.

Dogs

Please be mindful that some children and adults are afraid of dogs. All dogs must be on a lead and where possible we kindly ask that you leave your dog tied up at the bottom of the nursery ramp. NO dogs (except Guide dogs) are to be brought into the nursery setting inside or outside.

Parking

We respectfully ask that parents do not park in the disabled parking bay outside the nursery unless you require them. Please be mindful that there are parents and users of the Rugby/football club next door who do need to use them.

Donation Request

We would be very grateful to receive donations of flour (any type), salt and vegetable oil. In addition, if anyone has any of the following items that they no longer need, we would be very grateful for them at Nursery:

- ❖ Padlocks with keys

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- ❖ Guttering
- ❖ Magnets
- ❖ Bicycle wheels
- ❖ Outside paint brushes/rollers/drip trays

What we have been up to.....

The mud kitchen has been very popular outside, the children have enjoyed resources such as leaves, conkers and stones to make food such as chicken and rice! We have moved some of the learning areas in Acorns which the children have enjoyed exploring, particularly the construction area and in Oaks we have been busy making our own playdough using different food colouring and looking at the changes in the weather, discovering ice in the garden.

The Book Shed on the decking is open, please help yourself to a book and return for someone else to enjoy once you are finished.

Facebook

We have a new Facebook page; please search for St Mary's Nursery to access it.

New website

Before Christmas we shared with you all the link to our new website. Please click on the link and take a look where you will find lots of useful information about the nursery as well as our policies and term dates.

We will update the website with important dates so we encourage you to visit the website regularly to keep up to date with important news and events.

<https://www.stmarysnurserycamberley.co.uk/>

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