

PARKLANDS PRESS

Spring 2024



Thank you to everyone who opted to have a Parent/Key Worker appointment recently. We hope that you found the opportunity to discuss aspects of your child's development helpful. Please feel free to make an appointment with your child's key worker any time as we are aware that handovers can be busy.

World Book Day was celebrated in relaxing pyjamas and sharing our favourite books with friends and family. Thank you to everyone who was able to join us reading stories and singing rhymes. Ruth and Emily provided delicious themed food which was well received! See more on our Facebook page.

Alarna and the Pre-School team held an informative school readiness workshop recently. Thank you to all who managed to join us. Let us know if you still need a copy of the information pack.

Primary school places will be offered on Friday 16th April. Please let your key worker know which school you have accepted so that we can liaise with them and invite school reception teachers to visit us.

Providing children with experiences and opportunities to help them progress and achieve success, is a requirement of the EYFS. The term used is providing "Cultural Capital". We would like you to help the children become more knowledgeable about the world around them. Let us know if you could visit the children at nursery and talk about an aspect of your life that you would like to share. Previously, we have been visited by a vet, dentist, physiotherapist and even a building safety engineer, but the topic could also be a hobby or interest. These experiences really enhance their learning and the children thoroughly enjoy them. Please let us know if you can help.

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Staff news:

Sadly, Laurie, Gina and Emma will soon be leaving Parklands. Laurie is going to work abroad, Gina moving to pastures new and Emma starting a new venture in a local school. We are sure you will wish them all the very best as all three have made a

real difference to the teams, families and children over the years at Parklands. We will be welcoming Jodie to the 0-2 team who is returning to the nursery after a number of years away. Kimberley will be joining the Pre-School team in April and Vicky will be a regular part of Pre-School in the interim.

Reminders:

- We issue our personal information update form annually, but please let us know if any of your details have changed in the meantime. A significant amount of this sort of information is needed for safeguarding reasons and is important that it is kept up to date.
- Learning Book is fully interactive and we are keen to see more of your own contributions alongside photographs from your child's key worker. We love to see what you've been up to at home, share it with the group and use the information in planning activities.
- Our nursery Facebook page gives you weekly information and lots of photographs so that you can see what we all get up to during our days at Parklands. Follow us if you haven't already and comment and share.
- Our safeguarding policy was reviewed at the beginning of the year and is available on our nursery website.
- Our Designated Safeguarding Lead is Gail Charlesworth, Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead is Jane Mullen-Heath and the setting SENCO is Vicky Finnan.
- Morning sessions for all ages of children will be 7.30am-12.30pm from April 1st.

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Over the previous months we have been continuing with visits from Cheshire East who have been providing us with guidance and support in readiness for our next Ofsted inspection which will be before the end of July.

Everyone has been working really hard to embed new practices and we feel confident that we have a solid basis to keep reviewing and progressing further. Janaury also saw around half of the nursery team renew their first aid certificates with a full day of training at the weekend. Although not mandatory, we feel that it is important for all team members to hold a current paediatric first aid certificate and keep knowledge fresh.

As you will be aware, government childcare funding will expand to eligible 2 year olds from April. From September 2024 this will expand to eligible children from 9 months old. From September 2025, all eligible children from 9 months old will be entitled to 30 hours a week of childcare support. Please visit this site to learn more: <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/upcoming-changes-to-childcare-support/>

Easter half term is quickly approaching. You should have received your invitation for our egg hunt around the grounds on Thursday 28th March at 2.30pm. Eastery attire is welcome and Ruth and Emily are planning refreshments and yummy hot cross buns. Everyone is welcome to join us whether you attend the nursery on Thursday afternoons or not.

Please note that Parklands will be closed on Good Friday - 29th March, Easter Monday - 1st April and Mondays - 6th and 27th May.

Have a lovely Easter break.

Jane, Vicky, Gail and all of the Parklands Team.