

**Glenhurst
2012**

**Spring 1
Newsletter**

Happy New Year!



Welcome back to Nursery and hope you all had a great Christmas. everyone, and a warm welcome to the many children who are joining us this term, including those closed Havant Nursery.

Pre-School! We Happy New Year to new families and from the recently

This newsletter contains information about the first half of the Spring Term 2012. If you have any queries or suggestions please don't hesitate to pop into the Office, email or phone.

If you have been particularly impressed by a member of our staff please don't keep it to yourself. If you are able to email, phone or let Jo know in person about your experience then the relevant staff member will hear about your feedback and will benefit from our staff reward scheme.

Short Term and Long Term Planning

The short term (weekly) planning for the parents of Rising 3 and Pre-School children is displayed on the whiteboard in the main building hallway; please ask Rachel (Manager) or Claire (Room Leader) if you would like any points explained. Please find enclosed the topic letter for the first half of term, on the theme of "A Voyage around the World".

The Nursery short term (weekly) planning for the parents of 1-3 year olds is displayed on the parents' board in the Nursery entrance; please ask Gemma (Deputy Manager) or Deborah (Room Leader) if you have any questions about this. The baby short term (weekly) planning for the parents of 0-1 year olds is displayed in the baby area and a copy of this is placed in each baby's bag each week. Please ask Nikki (Room Leader) if you have any questions about the baby planning.

The long term planning and weekly planning for staff are kept in the Office. Each Key Person knows their children's Next Steps and you are welcome to ask at any time if you would like to know this. If you are unsure which member of staff is your child's Key Person then please check with Rachel or Gemma.

Thank you!

Towards the end of last term and again at the start of this term we were very pleased to receive a lovely donation of toys, games, art and craft materials and outside play equipment from Keeley's mum and dad. Some items were good quality second hand and some were brand new. They raised money for the brand new items through a (very long!) sponsored walk. We are very grateful for such lovely gifts – thank you so much, Ellie and Rod! If anyone else wishes to donate unwanted or grown-out-of toys then we would be delighted to receive them.

Building Improvements

An outside storage room has now become a laundry room, so that we can launder cot sheets, bibs, flannels and other items on-site. Another outside storage room now has a new toilet and washbasin, and the children can now access it directly from the garden. Our next projects are to designate an area of the Nursery for 2 year olds, including new equipment, and for the Sleep Room to be re-decorated with sensory items including mobiles, soft lights, etc.

Vouchers

This term we will be collecting:

- ♥ Nestle Box Tops for Books
- ♥ **Tesco / Sainsburys vouchers – look out for the start of the new campaigns!!**
- ♥ Used stamps for the R.N.L.I
- ♥ Used greetings and Christmas cards, mini toiletries and ribbons for the Royal Blind Society

We have ordered some seeds and other gardening equipment from the Morrisons Let's Grow scheme, which should be arriving this Spring in time for the children to plant them in the Spring and Summer.

Weather!

Although the weather seems to be different every day (!) may we please remind you that all children must have a coat and suitable shoes with them. Please do not send your child in wellies unless they also have another pair of shoes with them. You may like to leave a pair of wellies and a pair of slippers here at Glenhurst for your child to wear while they are here. All items MUST be named.



If it snows please don't worry about finding out if we are open because we will be! We are never closed for snow even if all the schools in the area are closed.

Mobile Phones Policy

Further to the updated policy given to all parents at the beginning of November, may we please ask that you do not use your mobile phone while on Glenhurst premises. This is not only a safeguarding measure but it also ensures that children have your uninterrupted attention during drop-off or collection, and staff are able to speak you about your child's day and other matters.

Information for Parents

Three new information sheets are available for you to take from parents boards in the main building and in the Nursery. The subjects are:

Aggression: How to deal with hitting, biting and more

Developmental Milestones: Separation and Independence

Healthy Eating: 0-1 year olds

All of these information sheets are well worth reading as most parents will probably come across one or more of these issues at some point.

The Food Standards Agency provides guidance for Nurseries on the correct preparation and storage of formula milk; this guidance is on display in the Nursery kitchen.

Our policies on "Biting", "Behaviour Management" and "Healthy Eating" are also available from the Office on request.

Breakfast and Afterschool Club

Our clubs for Fairfield and Bosmere children are going very well, with our upstairs rooms now being used by the older children right up to 6pm. Mrs Kelly Burton has joined us as our Afterschool Club Leader, with Chris Haines as her assistant.

Staff Updates

Firstly, we are delighted to welcome some new faces to our growing team:

Kelly Burton, Afterschool Club Leader
Hannah Holdford, Trainee Practitioner
Chris Haines, Afterschool Club Assistant

After a few drinks at our Christmas Do, we counted up how long we have all been here:



Jo Hollingshead, Business Manager	6 years, 4 months
Rachel Oakshott, Nursery & Pre-School Manager	4 years, 3 months
Gemma Evans, Deputy Manager	4 years, 2 months
Georgina Glass, Practitioner	3 years, 6 months
Bhing Mackenzie, Cook and Housekeeper	3 years, 3 months
Claire Smith, Room Leader	2 years, 8 months
Deborah Johnson, Room Leader	2 years, 7 months
Ian Radford, Practitioner	2 years, 4 months
Nikki Wilson, Room Leader	2 years exactly
Rebecca Hext, Practitioner	1 year, 3 months
Danielle White, Practitioner	1 year

Our staff absence and turnover is remarkably low and we appreciate what great staff we have!

Lastly, Danielle will shortly be going on maternity leave as her baby is due on 1st April. We all wish her well and hope she will come back after her leave. We will miss her!

Staff Training

Completed: Rebecca and Georgina attended a Language and Communication in the Early Years seminar on Tuesday 6 December.

Ongoing: Ian is due to complete his NVQ2 in Childcare and Development this month

Nikki is due to complete her NVQ3 in Childcare and Development in May

Hannah is due to start her NVQ3 this month

Organised: Deborah and Rachel will be attending a Keep on Talking briefing on Wednesday 18th January and Claire and Gemma will be attending the same briefing on Thursday 19th January.

Nikki will be attending Inspirational Outdoor Play for 0-3's on Wednesday 25th January and Rachel and Claire will be attending Motivational Outdoor Play for 3-5's on the same day.

Rebecca and Claire will be attending a Makaton Beginners' Workshop on Saturday 4 February.

Jo, Rachel and Gemma will be going to the Nursery World show in London on Saturday 18th February and will be attending seminars on best practice.

Jo will be attending a Health & Safety Officer course on 23-24 April.

Everyone will be attending a refresher paediatric first aid course (date to be confirmed) as a group.

Training is very important, not only to keep staff up to date with regulations but also to bring fresh ideas into our Nursery and Pre-School to benefit the children.

Dates and Events for your diaries

Chinese New Year – Monday 23rd January

We will be celebrating the Year of the Dragon with a chinese lunch and special activities.

Dress Up Day – Wednesday 8th February

Children are welcome to come to Nursery and Pre-School in their favourite costume or outfit. We ask for £1 per child on the day, which is used to fund a small project or purchase in the Nursery or Pre-School, chosen by the staff.

Half Term – 13th-17th February

This is a holiday week for our term time customers, as the Early Years Grant is not available. If you would like to book Holiday Club for your child (whether this is a morning, afternoon or a whole day) then the following rates will apply:

Ages 0-2	Ages 2-3	Ages 3 +
£6.50 per hour	£5.95 per hour	£5.50 per hour
£45.00 per day	£42.00 per day	£40.00 per day

Parents Evening – Tuesday 22nd February, 6-8pm

Please drop in between 6-8pm if you would like to discuss your child's progress and development with a senior member of staff (Room Leaders and Managers). Discussions will necessarily be limited to 10 minutes for each child to allow everyone to have a chat. Refreshments will be provided. **Please do not bring your child or baby with you, as staff will not be able to talk about your child in front of them. We are not able to provide childcare facilities on the evening.**

Dress Up Day – Friday 9th March

Children are welcome to come to Nursery and Pre-School in their favourite costume or outfit. We ask for £1 per child on the day, which is used to fund a small project or purchase in the Nursery or Pre-School, chosen by the staff.

Easter Fun Day – Wednesday 28th March

We are having an Easter Fun Day, to include an Easter Egg Hunt, an Easter Bonnet Parade and topical arts and crafts. If your child does not normally attend on a Wednesday then you may wish to bring them in to take part (you will need to stay with your child so that ratios are not affected). Alternatively you may wish to book your child in for the morning (normal hourly charges will apply).

WEDNESDAY 28TH MARCH IS ALSO THE LAST DAY OF TERM FOR OUR TERM-TIME ONLY CUSTOMERS. The Early Years Grant is not available from Thursday 29th March to Friday 13th April.

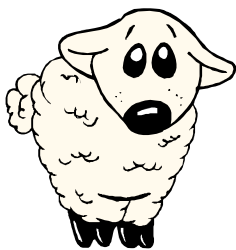
Easter Holidays – Thursday 29th March – Friday 13th April

This is a holiday period for our term time customers, as the Early Years Grant is not available. If you would like to book Holiday Club for your child (whether this is a morning, afternoon or a whole day) then the same rates as given for half term will apply.

CLOSURE DAYS

We are closed for Bank Holidays on Friday 6th April and Monday 9th April. Customers are not charged for closure days.

First day of Summer Term - Monday 16th April



Dates for Your Diaries Spring Term 2012

Chinese New Year

Mon 23rd January

Dress Up Day

Weds 8th February

HALF TERM (term time customers)

13th-17th February

Parents Evening

Tues 22nd February

Dress Up Day

Fri 9th March

Easter Fun Day

Weds 28th March

LAST DAY OF TERM (term time customers)

Weds 28th March

HOLIDAY CLUB (term time customers)

29th March - 13th April

CLOSURE DAYS

6th & 9th April

FIRST DAY OF SUMMER TERM

Monday 16th April