

# BALLYMENA NURSERY SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2021



Welcome back to Nursery after the half-term break. Please read this newsletter carefully as it contains some important information and dates. Please continue to keep up to date by checking your Tapestry account and viewing the school web-site regularly - [www.ballymenanursery.co.uk](http://www.ballymenanursery.co.uk).

### OUTDOOR PLAY AND SELF HELP SKILLS

Now that the children are responding well to our recovery curriculum and are in a safe and secure indoor nursery routine we are planning to introduce outdoor play. We will remain in our class bubbles and operate a cyclical pattern between the classes. Teaching the children the routines of putting on/off coats/welly boots and the safety rules of the garden, for example feet first down the slide, always look in the direction you are running in, prams and dolls stay on the footpath and vehicles stay on the "road" and to stop, look, listen and come into the welly boot store when you recognise your teacher's musical instrument. As the weather gets colder, the children will need warmer coats for outdoors.

Winter hats which tie under the child's chin and scarves are **not** allowed in the nursery playground for health and safety reasons to prevent choking. Please ensure that all clothing is named and your child has their welly boots left in nursery school. Please continue to encourage your child to develop their self help skills and ensure your child has shoes with velcro fastenings, no laces or buckles or open toed shoes/sandals please.

### SCHOOL FUND MONEY

For those who have opted to pay monthly, £20 is now due for November. We are a non-profit nursery school and the school fund money is used entirely for your children i.e. Tapestry/ texting service/ birthday/Christmas presents, photographs, baking/playdough ingredients, healthy snack, fruit, vegetables, and seasonal expenses such as pumpkins etc. as well as contributing to the day to day running cost of the Nursery.

Currently, we are spending £15 per week on additional cleaning materials for our fogging machines which are used before, between and after each session throughout the whole nursery school in line with our Covid Mitigation risk assessment.

**ADVANCE NOTICE:- 3+ REVIEW**  
**(Nursery age children - not for penultimate aged children)**

If you have any concerns regarding your 3+ child's preschool development, you will have the opportunity to meet with health visitors in nursery school in the new year. This is an excellent opportunity to speak to a health professional regarding any aspect of your child's development or any challenges you are facing - e.g. toilet training, fussy eaters, bedtime routine etc. More details to follow.

**FURTHER UPCOMING EVENTS & IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November** Poppies/ children's rulers/ wrist bands and reflective poppies will be on sale in Nursery School. £1 donation is recommended for the stationery.

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> November** - Road Safety Awareness week commences in Nursery School.

**Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> November** - **Children in Need. "Together we can change lives"**. This is a non uniform day - and the children can wear their casual clothes or anything "Spotty" ..... Please do not go to any additional expense. You can be creative and cut out dots from coloured paper! Please send a teddy bear or cuddly toy with your child.

The children will help their teachers to decorate their individual fairy cake and biscuits for our Teddy Bears' picnic and the staff will prepare sandwiches for the children. Nursery staff will check with parents who have indicated their children have special dietary requirements/ allergies. We would suggest a parental contribution of £1 for Children in Need for this very worthy charity.

**LEARNING POTENTIAL & FOCUS OF INTEREST FOR NOVEMBER & DECEMBER**

Our focus will continue with seasonal changes, Winter/ frozen lands, Children in Need/ our world and Christmas. Don't forget to download our November and December song and rhyme sheet to learn and sing along with your child at home!

**CHILD PROTECTION & TEXTING SERVICE.**

Please remember to inform us **immediately** of any change of mobile telephone numbers or amendments to the list of adults over the age of 18 who can collect your child.

**TAPESTRY**

If you are experiencing any difficulties with the Tapestry app, please e-mail Mrs. McMullan, our ICT co-ordinator - smcmullan206@c2kni.net.

AREAS OF LEARNING AND CHILD  
DEVELOPMENT

Please copy and paste the following link:

<https://www.early-education.org.uk/helping-children-cope-change> to view "Helping Children Cope with Change", which explores the challenges of children's behaviour and coping mechanisms for parents and carers. This is part of the excellent free and downloadable "Learning Together" series, which is well worth a visit.

