

Crossley Mill Nursery Spring 2022



Payment reminder

Please can all parents ensure invoices are paid by the 3rd of each month. Thank you!

Health & Safety /COVID-19

As we move to the 'living with COVID phase' we would like to say a huge thank you for all your continued support over the past 2 years, supporting us with bubble closures, last minute staffing changes and operational disruptions.

We are now welcoming this change but will continue to manage this as safely as possible, our updated COVID procedure will be sent out via email soon.



Dates for your Diary

Nursery closure dates 2022

Thursday 31st March Nursery will close at 5pm for staff to carry out their safeguarding Training.

Friday 15th April-Good Friday

Monday 18th April-Easter Monday

Monday 2nd May Early May Bank Holiday

Thursday 2nd June Platinum Jubilee bank holiday

Thursday 21st July-Closed all day for whole team training

Monday 29th August-Summer bank holiday

Nursery closes for Christmas at 3.30pm on Friday 23rd December and re-opens Tuesday 3rd January.

Events

We will be holding a face-to-face **Parents evening** on Tuesday 19th April, all parents will be invited in to have a 10-minute chat with their child's key person, our amazing chef, Rob, will provide nibbles and wine for this event. More information to follow via tapestry.

Mother's Day tea- At 3.30pm on Monday 28th March we will be hosting a Mother's Day cream tea, unfortunately, due to health and safety reasons this event will be limited to Monday's children only and will be on a first come first serve basis with limited spaces per room, if you would like to attend, please email Sarah to book a slot on the email address below. Thanks

Deputy.crossleymillnursery@btconnect.com

Easter bonnet parade and egg hunt- W/C 11th April each room will be having a Bonnet parade around the garden, children are invited to bring in a home-made bonnet on their designated day and join in with an egg hunt in the garden.

Monday 11th April-Baby room and Bobkins egg hunt and parade.

Tuesday 12th April-Lilliput's egg hunt and bonnet parade

Wednesday 13th April-Gulliver's egg hunt and bonnet parade



TINY PIXELS PHOTOGRAPHY

Wednesday 11th May- Tiny Pixels will be joining us to take professional nursery photos, if your child does not attend Nursery on Wednesdays, but you would like them to come in and join us for a professional photograph then please email Sarah on deputy.crossleymillnursery@btconnect.com to book a slot. The time slots for each room are as follows.

Baby room and Bobkins 10am-10.30

Lilliput's 11am-11.30

Gulliver's 1pm-1.30pm



What we have planned this spring

This term we are looking forward to hosting more face-to-face events within the nursery, bringing spring into the garden and preparing it for the nicer weather. We will be reintroducing forest Activity days and working with local architects on developing our building and possibly expanding.... please share your ideas on the survey which will be coming out soon.

The office



Jessica



Sarah



Claire

The Baby Room

This term we sadly say goodbye to Astrid but are very lucky to have Bethany joining our team. We have welcomed lots of new babies this term and our focus is forming those all-important relationships to help all our new little ones settle in and feel safe and secure.

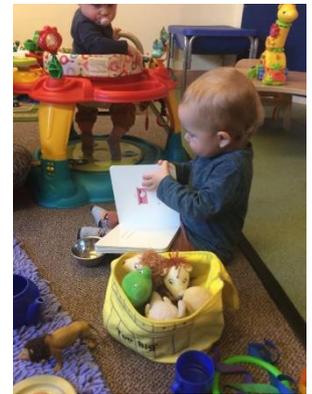
We also have lots of fun creative activities planned throughout spring and are looking forward to enjoying more trips out into the local community.



Caroline



Bethany



Bobkins

This term we sadly say goodbye to Georgina but welcome the lovely Astrid to our team.

During Spring the Bobkin's children will be busy celebrating various festivals and cultural celebrations, including St Patricks day, Holi, Easter, and St Georges day. We will also be getting creative for Mother's Day, making cards and gifts to send home.



Ryan



Astrid



Victoria



Lilliputs

This term we sadly said goodbye to Olivia who joined the Gulliver team, but we welcome Andrea to the team.



Andrea



Courtney



Rebecca



Maisy



Charlie

As Spring is here, we plan to spend more time outside exploring nature, watching things grow over time, going for walks, doing some planting of our own and carrying out science experiments to change the colour of flowers. We will be carrying out mark making on a large scale outdoors and creating obstacle courses to further develop our physical skills. We will also be encouraging independence at mealtimes by promoting self-serving of food and introducing a knife and fork.

Baby ballet is something else we're going to re-introduce to the lilliput children, and we will also be celebrating Mother's Day, Easter, Holi and Eid al Fitr.



Gullivers

This term, we welcome Olivia and Georgina to the team, but sadly said goodbye to both Andrea and Bethany.

Our focus as a team for this term is Traditional Tales, we will be looking at tales such as Billy Goats Gruff, Three little pigs and little red riding hood. We will also be exploring all elements of the story, incorporating our letter and number of the week.

We will have themed tuff trays and will also be taking our learning outdoors.

To prepare our children for school transitions we will also be focusing on early phonics, maths and letter blending.



Olivia



Georgina



Sally



Rosie



Alex



Board news

Dear parents and carers,

I hope everyone has been enjoying being able to see more of the inside of Nursery since the rules were changed. The staff have really enjoyed putting on more activities with parents, and this will continue through Spring and Summer.

There are a few important financial updates about Nursery which I want to share. As you know, Crossley Mill is a not-for-profit, whereby all fees are returned to deliver homely childcare. This means we need to ensure our operational income each year covers our costs.

The majority of Nursery's costs lie in staff salary (where we pay the real living wage). Our overall salary and tax bill will increase by over 5% due to a combination of the knock-on effects of the increase in the minimum wage, a shortage of childcare staff in our area, and the National Insurance increases. In March, the Board set a fair salary increase which is larger than normal, and consistent with our commitment to care for our staff. Many of the inflationary pressures you will all be feeling are also acute for our staff. We also are expecting 40-50% increases in our energy costs and have experienced 25% increases in our food costs – our third and fourth highest areas of spend.

The consequence of this is that at some stage this year, fees will need to increase for Nursery, and from Easter holiday club fees will increase to £32. The Board has decided to delay that increase until late summer. We have some financial headroom owing to the success of Holiday Club and are keen not to increase costs for parents until it is necessary, and to make the increase proportionate. Our fees are more than 10% lower than comparable local Nurseries, many of whom are putting fees up sooner and significantly. We will always try to deliver childcare as affordably as we can, without compromising on the quality of provision. However, I do want to be honest that I expect an increase to be necessary later in the year.

Finally, we also intend to invest some of our savings in significant improvements to the lower garden at Crossley Mill, and internal improvements and room redesign over the coming 2 years to maximise and refresh the space at Nursery. This will be funded from reserves we have already built up, and not funded by fee increases. Our approach is that operational costs must always be covered by fees within a year, and that any savings should be used for improvements rather than subsidising operational costs. This ensures we continue to invest in the quality of Nursery's provision, whilst maintaining our financial stability.

I'm always happy to discuss these matters with parents and carers who would like to know more – and I'd encourage anyone who is interested to join the Board, as an observer or a trustee, to support us in the running of Nursery.

Thanks

Adrian

(Chair of the Board)

