

We would like to wish all of our families a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



Term Dates 2020- 2021

Term 1: 3rd Sep-Thursday 22nd October
Term 2: Monday 2nd Nov – Thursday 17th Dec
 Term 3: Tuesday 5th Jan – 12th Feb 2021
 Term 4: Mon 22nd Feb – Thursday 1st April
 Term 5: Tuesday 20th April – Friday 28th May
 Term 6: Monday 7th June – Wednesday 21st July
<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/media/2086533/school-term-dates-2020-21.pdf>

INSET DAYS

September 1st & 2nd 2020
 October 23rd 2020
 December 18th 2020
 January 4th 2021

Welcome to the new children

Henry L and Georgia who have recently joined us in Bluebells class.

Christmas Crafts

The children will be bringing home some lovely Christmas crafts. These will be sent home towards the last few days of the term. It will all be quarantined before it is all sent home.

Christmas cards

The children are welcome to send their friends a Christmas card if they wish too. Please bring them in between 1st and 14th December so that we can quarantine them. Please do not lick the envelope! There will be a post box outside for the children to put them into.

A class list is available if you would like one. Please note it will only have Christian names on.

Term Activities Term 2 Lupins Class

Week 4: Thea – Christmas Cards
 Week 4: Shannon – Gift Bags
 Week 5: Freya – Clay Ornament
 Week 6: Rebecca – Calendars
 Week 6: Rebecca - Hanukkah
 Week 7: Cally - Edible Gift

Tuff Tray (Covid – 19 Friendly)

Polar Express (Train track, white felt, pompom's)
Ice Skating (Cotton wool, ice rink using foil, small world people)
Decorate Christmas tree (small Christmas tree, tinsel, baubles)
Winter wonder land (Houses, park, rides, trees, white pompoms (for snow)
Christmas decorating (bows, bells, tinsel)
Curiosity Cube – Christmas scene

Small group activities Lupins Class

Each day a staff member takes a small group of children to a quiet area to participate in small group activities. This enhances the children's individual skills. For example: turn taking, sharing, next steps, listening and development in all areas across the early year's foundation stage.
 Week 4; Freya – Physical Development
 Week 5: Thea - Mathematics
 Week 6: Understanding the World
 Week 7: Rebecca – Expressive Art & Design

Term Activities Term 2 Bluebells Class

Week 4: Carolyn – Gift Bags
 Week 5: Caroline – Christmas Card
 Week 6: Sara – Hanukkah
 Week 6: Sara – Clay Gift
 Week 7: Carolyn/Caroline - Edible Gift

Small group activities Bluebells Class

Week 4: Caroline – Physical Development
 Week 5: Sara - Mathematics
 Week 6: Caroline - Understanding the World
 Week 7: Sara – Communication & Language



COVID – 19 Update

Please wear a face covering on drop off and pick up. This is to ensure the safety of the staff and yourselves. There will be occasions when staff need to speak to parents privately, so by wearing a face mask will help to reduce the risks.

Please do not enter the small gated area unless absolutely necessary. We do understand that some children are reluctant to be handed over and sometimes may need to be carried to a staff member. We will continue with strict hygiene regimes of hand washing, using tissues; Catch it, Bin it, Kill it. We will continue to sterilise, wipe down any equipment and resources that have been used.

Parents evening/afternoon discussions

We usually have parent evenings/afternoon this term when you can discuss your child's development with their keyperson. Unfortunately, due to restrictions with social distancing we cannot go ahead at this present time. If you have any concerns please email Carole to arrange a telephone consultation with your child's keyperson. We may ask some parents to read and sign either a Summative report, 2-year check or Baseline document. This will only be if you did not receive a Baseline check (for new starters last term) and a two-year check between the child's second and third birthday.

There is a parent comment box should you wish to add to these reports.

Weather

Please ensure that your child is suitably dressed for the colder weather. The classrooms are lovely and warm, but as previously mentioned we will be going out for daily walks and exercise. Please label all items of outdoor clothing.

Photographer

Unfortunately, we will not be having a photographer to take the children's photo's before Christmas. We have taken this decision based on social distancing and not having visitors in the setting at this current time due to COVID. We hope you understand.

Garden update

Unfortunately, we are no further forward to any updates on the garden being fully accessible at this present time, however this week we have had a couple of companies in, to measure up and quote to improve the garden with new wooden structures and a safe surface for the children to play on.

The garden is extremely muddy, so we are going on daily walks for exercise and fresh air! We are spending lots of time exploring the local areas and having great fun at the outdoor weather pitch, we are also going to the park and trim trail.

Christmas party

Our Christmas party will be on Wednesday 16th December. We will provide party food, party games and dancing!

Please note that your child will NOT require a lunch box on this day.

Funded childcare

15 Hours Free Childcare/ 30 Hours Free Childcare

Funded childcare for 3 and 4-year-old children. For more information please go on:
www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/

Tax-Free Childcare

For **Working families**, including the self-employed, **in the UK** Earning **under £100K** and **at least £139** per week (equal to 16 hours at the National Minimum or Living Wage) each, who **are not** receiving Tax Credits, Universal Credit or Childcare Vouchers. With children aged 0-11 (or 0-16 if disabled)_For every £8 you pay into online account, the government will add an extra £2, **up to £2,000 per child per year**. If your working pattern and/or income has changed because of coronavirus (COVID-19); before you apply or reconfirm, please read [how the changes may affect your eligibility](#).

<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>