

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is hard to believe that we are already nearing the end of February and that 2020 is now well underway! I hope the beginning of the year has started well for you all. I would like to extend a warm welcome to all those who have joined the nursery this term, it is always lovely to welcome new children and their families. Following so much windy weather, we are looking forward to springtime here at Lydalls and have lots of springtime learning opportunities coming up in the coming months. Please keep your eye on our Facebook account and planning sheets for more information.

World Book Day

We will be celebrating world book day on Thursday 5th March and encourage children to come to nursery dressed as their favourite characters and with their favourite book (please make sure these are labelled with your child's name).

World book week falls during the fourth of our five special book weeks at Lydalls and we are looking forward to this celebration of stories and reading. Our core story that week will be 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar'.



Change in Office Opening Hours

From 24th February (after half term), our office opening hours will be as follows:

Monday: 9am-3.45pm

Tuesday: 9am-2.30pm

Wednesday: 9am-2.30pm

Thursday: 9am-3.45pm

Friday: 9am-2.30pm



Another member of staff may be able to help you when the office is closed – for example if you would like to collect a holiday form or hand in a letter.

**PLEASE
CLOSE THE GATE**

Gate Safety

Please close the big black gate behind you when entering or leaving nursery. Please do not allow any child to enter the gate code on the second gate. This is for the safety of all children. Thank you.

Parent Governor Elections

We are delighted to announce that following Parent Governor elections, Joanna Davies has been appointed to the role.

We are so appreciative of the work all of our Governors do for our school and I would like to extend our sincere thanks for their time and commitment.

Governors are crucial to the leadership of any school and are often referred to as 'critical friends'. The 3 core functions of the governing body are:

- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent
- Holding the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils
- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction



VACANCY

Would you like to be a governor?

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We have another parent governor vacancy and would love to hear from you if you are interested in the role. You will receive information about this through Parentmail, or just pop by and speak to me, or one of our existing parent governors, if you would like further information.

We welcome applications from all members of our community, regardless of background, gender, ethnicity, disability or age (provided you are over 18). Training is available and you do not need prior experience.

Being a Governor means you see things from the school's perspective and see how the school is managed. You will also gain an in-depth understanding of how decisions are made and the pressures on school leaders, while playing an integral part in deciding what happens. You could also add the following to your CV: Strategic planning / Experience on a board / Holding senior leaders to account / Finance and budget oversight / Human resources and performance management / Project management / Marketing Communication and teamwork / Decision making.

Love Your Local Library

This year we are looking to develop links with our local library. Please look out for our new library display that will soon be up in the entrance hall and also for links on our Facebook page. It will include some lovely FREE half term activities.



Attendance

Please make sure that your child has good attendance at nursery and let us know if they will not be coming. Good attendance can help your child to:

- ✓ Make friends and learn social skills
- ✓ Build good habits for school and further studies
- ✓ Play, learn and have fun
- ✓ Develop in all areas of learning



Being on Time

Being on time is also really important as it helps your child to settle into their nursery day more quickly. It can be more difficult for children who arrive late to 'catch up' with their friends games and to join in. It is also disruptive to other children's learning to have people 'coming and going' when they drop off late.

In the morning our drop off times are 8.45-9.15 and in the afternoon 12.45-1.15. Please try not to arrive outside of these times, however we understand that being late may be unavoidable now and again and we would much rather you came along than not at all!

30 Hours Children

It is really important that children attend their session and group time with their 'primary key person' (Claire-Louise, Joanne, Lucy, Sally or Steph). There has been an increase in some children being collected after lunch, causing them to miss out on their group-time with Joanne or Claire-Louise. Please try to avoid doing this, but speak to your child's key person if there are occasions where you need to do so.

Please make sure you register with your child's key person at the beginning of every session, even if they are out in the garden. It is vital, for safety reasons, that they are marked in the register.

Outdoor Days



We will be restarting our outdoor days after half term, having been patiently waiting for the ground to recover following our nature garden's plentiful use last term! Due to an increase in numbers of children in the morning, they will go out in two halves, with one half being dropped off in the nature garden (the one through the wooden gate by our buggy park) with their key person and the other being collected from there. Please look out for the poster each week for more information and to find out which day we have chosen for outdoor day. We choose different days each week and ask that children come to nursery in wellies and long trousers that day.

Dates For Your Diary

Upcoming key dates:

- 17th-21st February: Half Term – Lydalls Closed
- 5th March: World Book Day
- 9th March: 'Living Eggs' 2 week hatching chicks experience at nursery
- 13th March 9.00-10.00am: 'Rules and Rewards' parent workshop
- 23rd March 4.00-6.00pm: Parent's Evening
- 26th March 4.30-5.30pm: New Parent's Meeting
- 3rd April: Last day of Spring Term. Lydalls closes at 11.45.
- 21st April: First day of the Summer Term. Lydalls open for all children.

For a full list of dates, please visit our website:
<https://www.lydallsnurseryschool.co.uk/term-dates/>

Bag Reminders

Please do leave the laminated photo label on your child's bag and transfer it on to any new bag you then bring in. This really does make bags easier to identify for children and staff and means less time is wasted looking for bags in the session, which is frustrating for all involved.



Please make sure your child has at least one complete change of clothes in their bag – including socks and trousers.

Please ensure clothes are the only items in your child's bag. Food, snacks and nappy bags may be dangerous to other children.

Hatching Chicks



On March 9th an incubator full of eggs will be arriving at nursery. Look out for a letter after half term with more information about this exciting experience.

Parking

Please do park considerately outside of the nursery. In particular, please avoid parking in the disabled parking space outside a resident's house, on double yellow lines or down Compton Close. Thankyou.



Invoices

Please remember that should you need to stop or change a paid for session in the Chameleon Club 2 Year Old Base, breakfast club or lunch club, you must do this in writing at least half a term in advance. Please pay all fees by the date given on your invoice.

Vaccinations

We encourage all families to keep up with their child's vaccinations to safeguard their health, as well as that of the community. Please follow this link for further information:
<https://publichealthengland.exposure.co/childhood-vaccination>

School Transition

In the summer term primary schools nearly always invite children for settling visits. At nursery we have a transition week all about starting school and at this time spend group times with children going to the same schools. For this reason we strongly encourage you to resist taking your child on holiday in June or July.

