 **Parents’ Newsletter**

Autumn term 2 2016

Asalam Alaikum / Hello to all Parents and Carers,

**Ofsted Report**

As you are aware we were inspecting by Ofsted in September, Alhamdulillah we have now received our report and can let you know we were graded good in all areas (please find attached the report).

**Parent Practitioner Association (PPA)**

Our ‘Parent Practitioner Association’ was initiated to offer parents an opportunity to meet with nursery staff over tea and cake to discuss and make suggestions on how to shape the future of the nursery. In the past we have organised family fun days and Eid parties. Our next PPA will be held on 23rd November from 4.30-6.00pm. This will also be an opportunity for you if you would like to discuss the Oftsed report. We encourage all parents to attend.

**New Staff**

We would like to welcome Jagoda and Sabah to our nursery. Jagoda will be working in the pre-school room and Sabah will be in the toddler room.

**Parents Evening**

Establishing a partnership with our parents is a vital ingredient to helping our children reach their full potential. There is a current 19 month gap between children entering school from lower income families and those from higher income families. We want to close this gap so that our children are in no way disadvantaged regardless of their parent’s background; we believe this can be done through a successful partnership between parents and the nursery. We mention this as each year less then 50% of our parents book an appointment at our parents evening, this means that a partnership of working together to improve our children’s outcomes is not fully established. We hope this year will be different and that all our parents will take time out to learn how best to support their child’s progress.

This year’s parent’s evening falls on 16th December 2016 and will run between the hours of 6pm-9pm, with parents being given a 15 minute slot to sit with their child’s key person. We ask that parents arrive 15 minutes before their meeting so that they can read through their child’s progress tracker, which is known by yourselves as their green, ‘Learning Journey’ book.

Please book an appointment slot with either the deputy manager or your child’s key person when you pick up your children over the next few weeks.

**Nappies & Wipes**

Please can we remind parents if your child wears a nappy or is potty training, can you ensure they have sufficient nappies and wipes in the nursery.

**Pre-schoolers attending school**

If your child will be going to school in September 2017 can you please ensure they are enrolled with the schools of your choice before the closing date on 15th January 2017. For more information on how to do this please see leaflet entitled ‘Information for Parents’ that is in the leaflet tray outside the managers office. If you need support or help in registering your child please do not hesitate to ask nursery staff.

**Staff Reward System**

We have introduced a reward system for our staff as a means to recognise and reward their hard work. We would like our parents to participate and let us know which staff member has ‘Gone the Extra Mile (GEM)’ to support you and your child. At the end of each nursery term we will count the GEM slips and the staff member with the majority of slips will be rewarded with a gift voucher of their choice. The slips will be placed on the Parents Board (which has now been moved to outside our entrance door). Please take a slip, fill it out and post it into our comments and suggestions box that is outside the manager’s office.

**Clothing**

* As winter is approaching can we ask that children come in to nursery with the appropriate clothing.
* If your child is potty training or using the toilet can you please ensure the clothes are easy for the child to remove i.e no dungarees, as children find unbuttoning such clothes difficult and may even end up wetting themselves by the time they manage to undress. We would like to stress that Happy Children Nursery believe children being independent in their self care is vital for them becoming independent learners.
* Can parents please label all their child’s clothes and any other items they may bring into nursery such as a lunch box or the like. The children often take items from each other’s baskets and pegs and so clothes and lunch boxes often get mixed up, may we take this opportunity to remind parents that the nursery cannot be held responsible for missing items that are not labelled.

**Packed Lunches**

Would like to remind parents to kindly not put nuts in the packed lunches, as we have children with nut allergies. May we also remind parents that the nursery is not legally allowed to heat up food that has not been cooked in our setting.

**Increased Fee**

Due to national changes in legislation our running costs have increased dramatically, whilst we will shoulder some of these costs we will also have to unfortunately increase our fees from September 2017. We want to ensure parents have plenty of notice therefore we are informing everyone now. The price increase will be as follows;

Old Price New Price

£34 £36

£36 £38

£20 £22

£18 £20

Please note: Happy Children Nursery is committed to keeping fees as low as possible, its fees remain one of the lowest in Liverpool.

**Staff Training Day**

Please note that the nursery will be completely closed on Tuesday 3rdth January due to a staff training day.

**Trip to Childwall Woods**

The nursery will be taking all of it’s children from both the Toddler room and the Pre-School room to Childwall Woods on Tuesday 15th November 2016. The trip will take place for both morning and afternoon children between 9:30am-11:30am and 2:30pm – 4:30pm. May we ask that children are dressed appropriately for a walk in the woods (Suggested clothing : warm clothes, coat and wellington boots). Please see the nursery manager if you as a parent would like to volunteer on the day.

Happy Children Nursery

**Dates for your Diary**

**Winter break nursery closed- Begins 20th December-Ends 4th January 2017**

**Trip to Childwall Woods – 15th November 2016**

**PPA 23rd November 2016**

**Parents Evening 16th December 2016**

**Training Day 3rd January 2017**