

Welcome back to all our returning families and hello and welcome to our new families! We hope you've all had a lovely summer.

Setting Closure – Queen's Funeral

The whole of the world received sad news that the Queen passed away on Thursday 8th September 2022. Further to the announcement of her death, on Saturday we were informed that the Queen's funeral will be classed as a bank holiday and will be held on Monday 19th September 2022.

We are informing all parents that the setting will be closed to everyone on that day as a mark of respect to the Queen.

New Staff

We have 4 new members of staff joining our Home from Home team. Grace is our new apprentice and has joined the Cubs team, Sheryl has joined our Tigers team, Cassey will be supporting all rooms and starting with us shortly, and Michelle will be starting with us in October in Lions.

Kitchen

Thank you all for bearing with us while the kitchen is being updated. We are hoping to reopen the kitchen on Tuesday 20th September however we may have a slight delay, this will be confirmed as soon as possible. The number of meals we can provide will not increase with the refit of the kitchen and a reminder that if you would like your children to have lunches/dinners provided by us we still have a waiting list. If you would like to be added to the waiting list, please let us know.

Changes to days/hours

If you require any extra hours for your child when they are in or your child is not going to be in for any reason, requests for meals or changes in days/hours please can you let the office know rather than telling the rooms. We staff the rooms based on the child's days and times and any changes may affect this and must be approved by Linda, Zoe or Chrissie before they can come into effect.

We also have parents requesting for their child to do extra sessions, and by you telling us that your child is not going to be in allows us to offer an extra session to someone that may need it.

Start/Finish Times

We have had a lot of children being dropped off before their start times and being picked up after their finish times. We staff the rooms based on the number of children due in and staff start and finish at set times. Unfortunately, if you do turn up early to drop off your children, we may be unable to take them into the building until they are due to start if staff are not yet in.

If you need to drop off early or are running late to pick, please message the work phone to check that this is okay to do so. Extra charges are being applied to invoices for the times outside of contracted hours.

Christmas Photoshoot

Last year we had CaamKids Photography come into the setting and carry out a Christmas photoshoot, due to the popularity of this we decided to rebook them for this year. On Saturday 8th October they will be returning, the slots will be 10 minutes and must be prebooked. Times for the day are yet to be confirmed but if you are interested in a time slot please let us know and once times become available we will work our way down the list allocating slots as requested.

Proof cards will be sent home within 2 weeks of the photoshoot and there will be a website on your proof to place your orders.

Christmas Raffle

We are hoping to hold a Christmas raffle again this year and are looking for prize donations. If you or someone you know are able to donate any raffle prizes, please can you let us know. Further information on the Christmas raffle will be confirmed in the next newsletter.

Jabs and Vaccines

Just a reminder that if your child has had a vaccination (including 1 year jabs, preschool jabs, MMR, nasal spray, or flu jabs) they should be kept at home for 24 hours afterwards (as detailed in our Administering Medicine Policy), in case of a reaction to the vaccination. We would appreciate if parents can please keep us informed of any days those vaccinations are happening so we can ensure we are adhering to this policy.

Allergies/Medical

If your child has been given a medicine or diagnosed with any medical condition such as Asthma, we will require you to complete a Medical Care Plan, we can also only give medicines if they are prescribed and have the child's name on the label of the medicine and are in the original packaging.

If your child has any allergies or they had any allergies that they have grown out of please let us know so their care plan can be updated.

Pre-existing accidents

We have a duty of care to all the children in our setting and as part of that we are required to record any pre-existing accidents. These are accidents that have happened at home or out and about before they come into nursery, if your child has had any accidents that have resulted in an injury then please let us know when you drop them off so the staff member can record this on Baby's Days as a pre-existing injury. We have had several parents drop children off and not say anything and then we have found the injury later in the day which has then led to us having to message parents to ask what has happened.

Illnesses/Medicines

We are approaching the time of year when unfortunately childhood illnesses are prominent, and children's immune systems are still being developed. Our team are ensuring the setting is clean and doing everything they can to stop illnesses spreading however this is not easy. If your child is not well enough to be in the setting, then they should be at home.

As stated in our Managing Children who are Sick, Infectious or with Allergies policy children should be kept at home;

- For 48hrs after the last bout of sickness and diarrhoea
- For 24hrs after a temperature has returned to normal
- For 24 hrs after a vaccine/jab
- For 48hrs if they have been prescribed medication for an infectious illness
- Until they have had at least 3 doses of antibiotics

Tax-Free Childcare

Just a reminder that we accept Tax-Free Childcare, and you may be able to pay for your childcare using it. If you're a working parent, you can get up to £500 every three months (up to £2000 a year per child) to help with the costs of childcare. For every £8 you pay into your childcare account, the government will pay in £2. You can then use the money to pay for your childcare. To check how much, you could get towards your childcare costs and check whether you're eligible please visit the following website: www.gov.uk/apply-for-tax-free-childcare

Dates for the diary:

- **Setting Closed** – Monday 19th September 2022 – Closed for Queen Elizabeth II Funeral
- **Caam Kids Photography** – Saturday 8th October 2022 – Times TBC – Must be booked
- **October Half Term** – Monday 24th October – Friday 28th October 2022 – Funded only and Term Time only children will be off this week.
- **Halloween Disco** – Friday 28th October 2022 – 6pm – 8pm. More details to follow
- **Christmas Break 2022/23** – Children finish on Tuesday 20th December 2022 – returning on Wednesday 4th January 2023. Funded/Term Time children finish on Friday 16th December 2022 and return on Monday 9th January 2023.

REMINDER!

Please can you remember that we are a **NO PEANUTS AND NO NUTS** building! This includes Almonds, Hazelnuts, Walnuts and Coconut, as well as products such as Nutella, certain types of Chocolate Spread and different types of Milk!