

ALLENS CROFT

NURSERY SCHOOL

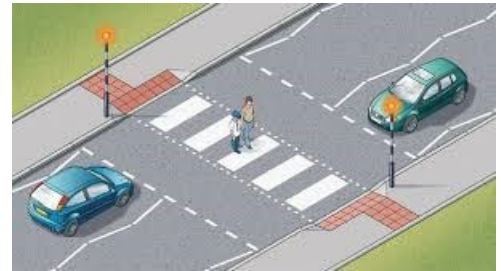


NEWS

Spring has finally arrived! We are so very proud of everything that the children have achieved during the academic year to date. As the milder weather approaches, we have lots of wonderful experiences planned for the children; some of which are detailed below. We cannot wait to see how their learning and development progresses during the coming weeks and months!

Unsafe and Illegal Parking

We continue to be very concerned about how some drivers are choosing to park their cars. The zig zag lines at either side of the zebra crossing on Allens Croft Road are in place to ensure that drivers approaching the zebra crossing can see and safely stop for pedestrians to cross safely. Parking on the zig zag lines is illegal and, more importantly, it is incredibly unsafe; **it puts children's lives at risk**. We politely request that you walk to school wherever possible. If this isn't possible, then please park away from school, on a neighbouring road and walk the remaining distance. This may require you to leave home or work 5 minutes earlier, which is a small price to pay for children's safety.



We have received many complaints from families that are concerned about this matter, but it is only through a whole-community commitment to our children's safety that safety will improve.

Our car park is only for blue badge holders (spaces marked in yellow), parents dropping off or collecting children, of less than 5 years of age, and for pregnant mothers visiting our health care services. Cars should not be parked or stationary outside the bays, on yellow lines or on or near the marked crossing and walkways.

We are working closely with West Midlands Police and, where needed, have forwarded photographs of cars that are parked unsafely and illegally, both roadside and in our car park. The police have already issued many penalties to these drivers.

Super Staff

We would like to congratulate two members of our leadership team...

Kelly for successfully completing her two-year teacher induction period, known as the Early Career Teacher (ECT) process.

Sarah for being selected as an Advance Practitioner of Attention Autism.

*We are very proud of them both
and our whole team!*

CHILDCARE SUPPORT IS EXPANDING

If your child is not already entitled to 2 year funding, you may meet the new criteria. You are able to check this by visiting www.childcarechoices.gov.uk to check your eligibility. Apply now for your child's funding from April 2024.

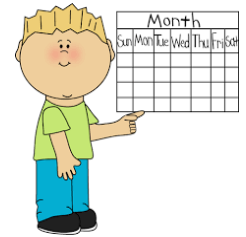
Lovely Lunches

If you pay for your child's lunches, allow us to remind you that payment is due no later than 12 noon the Tuesday before. If payment is not received by the deadline, a lunch cannot be ordered for your child and a packed lunch from home will need to be provided until the next order date with our supplier.



Important dates for your diary

- *Final date for the Egg Decorating Competition is Wednesday 20th March - more details can be found on the last page of this newsletter
- * Teacher Training Day - Friday 22nd March—CLOSED TO ALL CHILDREN
- *Easter Holiday - Monday 25th March - Friday 5th April
- *Play Scheme places are available from Monday 25th - Thursday 28th March
- *Children return to nursery Monday 8th April
- * **Parent Workshop** - Tuesday 12th March at 9:30 'How to support my child's Mathematical Development' - led by Tracey
- ***Parent's Breakfast** - Friday 19th April at 9:30 - The Wonderful Outdoors
- ***Toilet Training Workshop** - Tuesday 16th April at 9:30 - led by Claire



We would like to invite the children to wear odd socks to Nursery on Wednesday 20th March—in support of Down Syndrome Awareness Day

SEN/D Coffee Morning Tuesday 19th March 09:30 - 12:00

This month, an Occupational Therapist from the SEN/D Therapy Team will be attending the session to answer any questions regarding your child's sensory differences or any other occupational therapy queries.



Other Exciting Allens Croft News

Community Stay and Play

We were delighted by the response to our recent advert to recruit volunteers to support the running of our Community Stay and Play sessions. We are currently working through our recruitment process and hope to relaunch sessions shortly after Easter. *We will inform you of the start date once one has been confirmed...*

Allens Croft Nursery School Video

On Tuesday 27th February, a videographer spent the morning capturing a typical day at our Nursery School. This footage is currently being edited. We look forward to sharing our exciting promotional video with you in the weeks to come!

Mindfulness Techniques

We have recently made an addition to our Group Time Curriculum; teaching the children a mindfulness technique. These calming strategies are designed to raise children's awareness of their own well-being and to empower them to self-regulate their emotions. They consist of either a yoga pose or a breathing technique, which the children are taught during their group time sessions and are revisited during their nursery day.

Our mindfulness technique of the week can be found within our weekly curriculum updates on our school website, social media platforms (Facebook and Instagram) and on the television screen as you first enter nursery.

It would be great if you could ask your child to teach you these techniques at home and share any thoughts you may have on their Tapestry page. Thank you.

Messy Play Material Donations Needed

We are always in need of any donations you can provide for the children's sensory and messy play materials. These include items such as flour, rice, pasta, corn flour, mashed potato, shaving foam, couscous and lentils.

All donations are gratefully received and are well-utilised as valuable resources for the children's learning. *For more information regarding our child-centred curriculum, please see our school website and social media pages.*



School Photographer



A photographer will be visiting our Nursery School on **Tuesday 19th March** and **Thursday 21st March** to take individual photographs of each child. They will then be sent home with a QR code for you to scan, which will take you to the photographer's website. You will then be able to view and buy the photograph of your child, if you would like to.

If you would like a family photograph to be taken, please come to the CDC entrance, nearest our car park between 8-9am on either of these days.

Egg Decorating Competition



To celebrate the beginning of spring, we will be hosting an egg decorating competition. To enter, please decorate an egg or an artificial egg and bring it into nursery by **Wednesday 20th March**.

There will be prizes for the best child's egg, the best parent's egg and the best teacher's egg.

Get cracking, everyone!
