



# Otley Under Fives Newsletter



## Spring - January 2024

### Happy New Year Everyone!

**Here we are in a fresh new year!!**

I hope you all had a lovely Christmas and new year. All the children have settled back in well and enjoying all the new and exciting activities.

Our Dino teddy has had a lovely Christmas and will be finishing up his first round of adventures, ready to see everyone again.

**Guardian Gathering.** This will be held on Valentines Day. We would like to invite everyone in for a lovely afternoon with a little snack and some special activities. To be held at the nursery from 2-3pm on Wednesday the 14<sup>th</sup> of February 2024.

**Visitor.** This month we have had a lovely visit from Mike the Paramedic. He came in with his special helper Buddy! He spoke to the children about how our body works, first aid and his amazing job. The children loved getting to try out all the special equipment and asking lots of questions.



**Refer and Friend.** We are introducing a new scheme called refer a friend. Any current parent who's children attend this setting (School child too) are eligible. If you refer anyone to use and they start at Otley Under Fives, after 2 months £20 will be credited to both of your account. The number of referrals is unlimited until we have no more space! Any questions please speak to Cathy.

**Committee Members.** We are a committee run nursery and our lovely team of committee volunteers are hoping to get some new members. If you are interested, please let Cathy know and she can give you some more information.

**Meet and Greet.** To trial a communication event with all our parents we would like to offer a Teams online meeting for all to attend. This will be available one evening and allow all parents and guardians to ask any questions to the management or committee. If this is something you would be interested, please let Cathy know and we shall arrange a date.

**WOW moments.** We would like to celebrate the childrens wow moments by creating a space for their achievements. If you child has done anything you would like us to know about, please fill out they slip and bring it back it us, we shall then mention it at circle time and add it to our board.

### Hot Lunches

Hot lunches are £2.75 per child per meal. If you do wish for your child to have a hot lunch, please let us know at least 1 week before. This charge will be added to your invoice.

As before all meals are home made by staff on the day.

### School Leavers 2024.

We will be starting school transitions with the children hoping for Otley Primary on the 31<sup>st</sup> of January.

This will be on a Wednesday or Thursday from 11-12. We shall take a group of 5 over to the Primary school with one of our staff members staying with them the whole time. We are working with other schools if you child isn't planning on going to Otley Primary.

If you would like to know more please feel free to email Cathy.

### Funding

**The government has stated they will be creating 15 hours funded childcare for 2-year-old of working parents starting April 2024. If you are interested or need more information, please speak to Cathy or follow the link at the bottom:**

If your child will turn 3 this term, they will receive 15-hour funding after the Easter holidays, starting in January. We also offer 30-hour funding so please do check if you are eligible by following this link:

<https://www.gov.uk/30-hours-free-childcare>

You can also check to see if you are eligible for 2 year funding by following this link

[www.suffolk.gov.uk/two](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/two)

We part of the tax-free childcare scheme. Please apply for this by visiting <http://www.gov.uk/sign-in-childcare-account>

We also accept childcare vouchers.

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

### Reminders

Please see a list of things that all children will need each day at nursery:

- Winter/Raincoat
- Empty Drinks Bottle
- Weather appropriate shoes
- Multiple Spare Clothes
- Nappies, Wipes, Cream (if required)
- Slippers / Indoor Shoes (for grip / warmth)

Please can these items be labelled.

Our Half term starts on the 19<sup>th</sup> of February 2024.

Best regards and Many Thanks from Cathy and all the Team at Otley Under Fives.

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