

# Cooley Nursery Unit

## Newsletter



**September/ October 2020**  
**Topic: Settling In/ All About Me**

Parent/s

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome back everyone who was with us last year and ofcourse to welcome all of our new arrivals. We hope that you all enjoyed your summer holidays! We are really enjoying ourselves and have found that the children have been a joy to work with. I have put together this little newsletter to help keep parents updated on various aspects of nursery life.

Mrs Byrne - Nursery Teacher

### July/ August Birthdays

Conor Martin  
Hannah Crawford  
Ellie Campbell  
Philip Black  
Isla Barker  
Martha Moody

### September/ October Birthdays

Florence Patterson  
Ella Reid  
Jessica Galbraith

'Happy Birthday'



### Holidays and Closures

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October - Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> December - Friday 1<sup>st</sup> January

(Returning to nursery on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021)

Nursery will close early at 11.00am from Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October, to facilitate parent/ teacher meetings.

(Nursery will close early at 11.00am on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December)

### Meetings

Parent/ teacher meetings will be held between Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October and Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October. Allocated times to follow. Nursery will close early at 11.00am this week, to help facilitate meetings.

### Rhymes

Below are some of the rhymes which we will be learning this month. I'm sure your child would love to recite these popular rhymes with you at home.

- 'Incey Wincey Spider'.
- 'Humpty Dumpty'.
- '2 little dickie birds'.
- 'Hickory Dickory'.
- 'Hey Diddle Diddle'.
- 'I'm a little teapot'.

### Ideas for Parents

As stated our topic this month is 'All about me'. We are also exploring our senses and talking about seasonal changes. If you would like to follow up our topic at home here are some activities you might like to try.

- Share stories related to family life, the body or senses with your child.
- Look at family photographs and talk about all of your different family members.
- Talk about sounds you might hear on nature walks.
- Encourage your child to eat healthy snacks at home and talk about hygiene issues. E.g. we wash our hands before we eat, we brush our teeth before we go to bed.
- Talk about seasonal changes in autumn.
- Use autumn leaves to make pictures/ rubbings/ prints.
- Bake gingerbread men with your child.
- Encourage your child to draw their favourite characters from story books.
- Go on an autumn walk with your child and talk about changes in the environment, e.g. weather, animals such as spiders on their webs, leaves changing colour, etc.
- Use and reinforce simple associated vocabulary, e.g. body parts - arm, leg, knee, elbow... Seasonal - leaves, windy, rainy... Encourage more difficult words, e.g. nocturnal, hibernate...

## Spare Clothes Reminder

'Little accidents' often happen at nursery and staff will need to change your child when they do. Please remember to provide us with another change of clothes for your child, following an 'accident'.

All returned bags should be named and should contain items to replace what was sent home. For example, if your child's T-shirt and trousers were changed and sent home wet, please supply us with a pair of trousers and a T-shirt to keep as spares.

(Please name spare clothes in bag. Spare clothes do not need to be Cooley uniform items).

## Allergies

We have a number of children with significant allergies at nursery. Some of these allergies are life threatening and must be taken seriously. Cooley Nursery Unit is a **NUT FREE ZONE** and we ask all parents to refrain from sending **ANY** food or drinks to nursery with their child.

## Comings and Goings

I would just like to remind parents to maintain a **social distance** from others when dropping off and picking up children.

All persons leaving children to nursery and picking them up, must be over 18 years old.

I can not stress enough, the importance of **collecting your child promptly**. Children can become upset, when they are the only child left at nursery. Staff also have evaluations and observations to write up and lots of tidying up to do. Staff will contact parents by telephone if children have not been collected, as mix ups often occur.

We ask that all parents arrive on school premises **a few minutes before their child's pick up time**.



## Uniform

Please remember to name all items of uniform and spare clothing. It can be an impossible task to find mislaid items if they have not been named. We appreciate your co-operation on this matter.

Our area of interest this month is **time** related. We are currently in the process of setting up a table related to a **night time** theme. This year, due to COVID 19 restrictions, we are not accepting items from home for this table. We would however encourage you to set up your own little 'Night Time' themed table at home. Example objects may include an alarm clock, a night dress, pyjamas, a star shaped item, a moon shaped item, a cuddly toy such as an owl, etc. Talk to your child about different times of the day, e.g. morning, time breakfast time, before school, after school, night time... Explore the difference between night and day, e.g. the moon and the sun.

Thank-you.

## Coats

Please remember to wrap your child up warm. We will be outside every day and children will need a coat, hat, gloves, etc.

## Items from Home

We are asking parents not to send school bags or toys to nursery with their child. We understand that exceptions to this rule may need to be made however, if at all possible we would encourage parents not send anything from home to nursery.

## Snack

Snack money is to be paid during the first week of every month.

Cost - £8 per month

We ask that parents try to remember to do so at the beginning of the month so that accounts can be balanced at this time.

Children will also be provided with milk each day, free of charge.

## School/Nursery Notes

Emails will be sent out relating to many aspects of school life. Please check your emails regularly for any correspondence.

Also, please remember to send us an email detailing the reason for your child's absence from nursery.

[aanderson526@c2kni.net](mailto:aanderson526@c2kni.net)

## Pyjama Party



We invite nursery pupils to a Pyjama party on **Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October**.

9.15-11.00am

Children may come to nursery in their pyjamas, participate in party games and enjoy party snacks.

(There will be no painting on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October).

### **Child Protection**

Our designated teacher for child protection is Miss Cathcart and our deputy designated teachers are Mrs Carrothers and Mrs Byrne. Any queries or problems should be directed to them.

### **I can do it...**

Please take some time to help your child develop their independence. Encouraging them to take off and put on their own coat and shoes at home will really benefit them. Children are being asked to take off and hang up their own coats every day and we will be working hard to help your child to learn to put on their own coat. Children are also being encouraged to take off their own shoes/welly boots and to put them on again. Ofcourse they will get support when needed but we are always striving to develop this independence.

### **COVID 19 Symptoms**

You have recently received literature from the Department of Education regarding COVID 19 so please ensure you investigate any symptoms your child may have. As a school and Nursery unit we will be taking PHA advice. Please ensure children are kept at home if they display any related symptoms, and follow all PHA guidance.

### **Rufus**

Safefood, in partnership with the Department of Education, has launched their 'Rufus' handwashing programme, which aims to make handwashing habits fun, whilst keeping germs at bay. I have sent home a little poster to help encourage the continuity of good handwashing habits at home.

### **Toileting**

Please remember to take your child to the toilet before leaving home each morning. I'm sure you can appreciate how busy nursery life is upon arrival at present. Ensuring that children use the bathroom or are changed before leaving home really helps support staff and your child at this time.

