

# Boundstone Nursery School

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## Nursery Updates & reminders January 2024

Hello Parents/Carers

A very warm welcome to Boundstone to all our families and children, both those who are returning after Christmas and those joining us for the first time. We are all very excited to be working with you to help support your child's learning journey. Boundstone Nursery School has been supporting children's learning in Lancing for many, many years and every new term we are thrilled to welcome a new cohort of young ones keen to learn in our wonderful environment. Birth to Five is a crucial time for child development, this is the time when the foundations for learning, health and behaviour throughout life are laid down. Babies are born ready to learn, and their brains develop through being looked at; spoken to; and played with. Such simple steps to help your child to learn! Did you know the first 5 years of life is when a child's brain develops the most, reaching 90% of its adult capacity? Watch this to find out more:

[https://www.ted.com/talks/molly\\_wright\\_how\\_every\\_child\\_can\\_thrive\\_by\\_five?language=en](https://www.ted.com/talks/molly_wright_how_every_child_can_thrive_by_five?language=en)

We welcome two new members of staff to Boundstone this term, Kristine, who is working in the afternoons as a Nursery Assistant and Lindsey, who is working in the mornings to support our SEND children. We are thrilled to have you both on board at Boundstone and hope that you will enjoy working with us.



We are always trying to improve our practice and looking for ways to ensure we support your children to the very best of our ability, this week we have started some refresher training around Adult Child Interactions. This training is being delivered by Catherine Brierley from the Speech and Language Therapy Service. We look forward to seeing the impact this training will have on our practice.



We are developing our use of Learning Journals in the Nursery School to ensure that the children have more of an input into this valuable record of their learning. Staff encourage the children to choose evidence to stick into their journals and this includes photographs from home. So please feel that you can share the experiences your child has at home, such as special occasions, holidays, visits or visitors. We really enjoy seeing what the children have been doing, it supports the picture that we can build of each child and is encouraging for your child to talk about and share their Learning Journal.



**Changes to funding:** You have probably heard that the Government are making the following changes to the funding arrangements as follows:

“From **April 2024**, working parents of two-year-olds will be able to access 15 hours of funded childcare.

From **September 2024**, 15 hours of funded childcare will be extended to all children from the age of nine months.

From **September 2025**, working parents of children under the age of five will be entitled to 30 hours funded childcare per week.”

Currently we are waiting for the funding rates to be confirmed by West Sussex. We are beginning to look at how these changes to funding arrangements can be implemented both in day care and in the Nursery School. I am sure you will appreciate there are lots of things for us to consider as a result of this, and details will follow once we know more. All parents have been sent an online survey but we had a very small response. We will be emailing the survey again and asking you to please complete it with your views so that we can make the best decisions in response to your needs.

## DIARY DATES

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February- Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February:** Half term, we are closed.

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March:** Spring term ends.

**Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March-Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April:** Easter Holiday, we are closed.

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April:** Summer term begins.

**INSET day 2024: Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April**

### REMINDERS:



Parents dropping off and collecting are reporting to us that the front gates are being left open. Please be extra careful when using the gates to enter and leave the premises that you do not leave them open or allow other children to pass through. Young children love to run ahead and it is so easy for a child to run through open gates and into danger. Closing the gates keeps all our children safe.



Please dress your child suitably for the weather and make sure coats, hats scarves and gloves have your child's name in. Our garden is popular all year round and children are able to play outside every day whatever the weather!



If your child needs Calpol (or similar medicine) please keep them at home as we cannot accept them at school. Once the medicine wears off they are still poorly and this is distressing for them.

Please speak to your child's key worker if you have any questions or would like to know more about any information shared in this newsletter.

All the best,

*Kate*

Head of School, Boundstone Nursery School