



Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to our December Newsletter which we hope will keep you all up to date with what's happening in the nursery at this very busy festive time of the year☺

Can we remind everyone, now the cold weather has arrived please can you remember to provide warm clothing, coats and wellies for your child, which should all be named to prevent loss.

If you would like to familiarise yourself with our policies and procedures, please go to our website at: [www.sawstonnursery.org](http://www.sawstonnursery.org) where some of these can be viewed. Alternatively, Tracy will happily print the requested policy for you, or email it to you.



### **Beep - Beep, Road Safety Week - 19 - 23rd November 2018**

This was a huge success and children had lots of fun taking part in different activities available around the nursery. We hope all children gained further awareness about 'Staying Safe' whilst crossing the road and being 'out and about'.

### **Christmas Party & Other Festivities**

Our Christmas Party will be on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December.

The entertainment will be at 9.15am for one hour. The actual party will take place after Musical Bumps at 3.45pm.

We would like to apologise to all of those children who do not attend nursery on the party date this year. We aim to be as inclusive as possible, but due to space restraints and staffing across the nursery this can be difficult.

We will endeavour to vary our future celebrations/ parties throughout the year on different days of the week.

Other festivities for this month:

- Our Christmas Carol Evening will be on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December at St Mary's Church 4.30-5.30pm.
- We hope to have a visit from Father Christmas on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December.
- Christmas Lunch will be on Wednesday December 19<sup>th</sup>.



### **Buttercup Room (Babies)**

We are busy preparing for the Christmas Carol Service and looking forward to the Christmas party, where we hope, Father Christmas will join us.

We have lots of festive art and crafts planned, including some festive cooking to take home and enjoy.

*A polite reminder to all adults, please remove your shoes or use the blue covers provided when you enter the Buttercup Room.*

### **Bluebell Room**

This month we will be enjoying a variety of Christmas activities, including our 'Interactive Christmas Tree'. This is a felt, tree where the children will be able to take things off and put things on.

We are practicing our Christmas Carols for the Carol Service on 11<sup>th</sup> December, where we hope you will all be able to join us for a sing along.

Can we ask that all children please have spare clothes in their bags, spare socks are needed urgently. The ground is very wet at the moment and the children do not always put their shoes on before venturing outside.

Can we also have shoes and wellies for all our children.



### **Daffodil Room**

Lots of preparation is going on for the Carol Service this month. We are learning our songs together in preparation. If you would like to support your child with their carol songs, please ask staff what songs they are learning, so that you are able to help them practice at home.

Our Christmas activities are under way and will be displayed for all to see. Don't forget to check your child's drawer too!

### **Poppy Room**

We will be talking about Christmas and all the festive activities that take place at this time of year with the children.

In addition, we will be learning our Christmas Carols ready for our service at St Mary's Church.

Our art activities will be focussing on the festive theme including making Christmas cards and getting messy.

### **Sunflower Room**

This month in Sunflower Room, we are reading 'The Gingerbread Man'.

We will be developing our story vocabulary, exploring with biscuits in water, painting Gingerbread Men and counting his buttons as well as baking our own. We are all working hard to develop our manners and kindness towards others.

Furthermore, we are now preparing for the Christmas season and will be taking part in lots of Christmassy activities on offer to everyone.



### **Staff News**

Welcome Sophie Lloyd (Katie, in Poppy Room's sister). Sophie will be working in the Sunflower Room on a Monday and Wednesday until the end of the academic year 2019 so please say hello and introduce yourself.

### **Facebook**

Just a reminder to all families that we have a closed Facebook group for parents/carers whose children currently attend the nursery. So, if you want to join us go to the Sawston Nursery page and put in your request. This is a good place to share ideas and ask questions about child development and the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum.

### **SNAP Christmas Fayre**

Many thanks to the **SNAP** group and staff at Sawston Nursery for working hard to raise funds at the Christmas Fair on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> November where we raised a total of £485.00. Thank you to those who attended this event to help raise money to repair the mound in the garden area. The cost for the repair will be approximately, £4000 so any ideas for fundraising you may have please come and talk to us. We would love to hear from you.

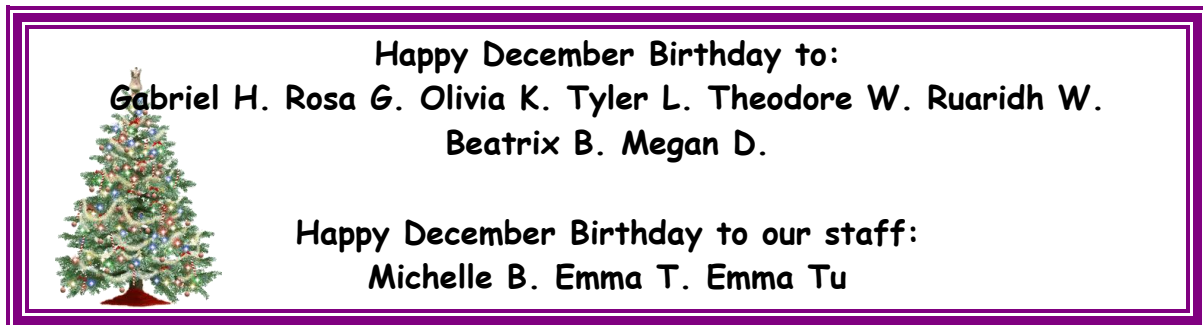
Please be aware that we need parents to come forward and join our SNAP group committee to continue and support the nursery. We desperately need more funds and a group to organise fund raising events on behalf of the nursery, working closely with our staff. If you feel you can spare some time please come and talk to Tina, Michelle or Zoe at the nursery who can give you more information about the group if needed. We do not want this group to close as we do rely on SNAP to support us and without additional funds; we are unable to provide new resources and repairs such as the mound in the garden area.

### **New Starters**

If your child has recently started at the nursery, please do not hesitate to talk to the staff members in the classroom about how he/she is settling and any concerns you may have. Remember each child has their own key person responsible for working with your child (together with a small group of other children) giving reassurance to feel safe and cared for and to build relationships with parents/carers.



We understand that parting with your child at nursery can be an anxious time for some parents, so we are happy for you to call the nursery during the day where we can transfer you to your child's classroom and give you an update on their day. Just pick up the phone and call us on - **01223 472018** - we are happy to help. However, please can we ask you to try not to call between 12.00pm-2.00pm as the younger children are asleep and it is a very busy time during the lunch period for staff. If you call and receive no answer please leave us a message and we will ensure that someone returns your call.



#### **Employee of the month nominations for December 2018:**

This month our nominations go to the following staff:

- *Leisa B for providing such great menus and such tasty food for the children in nursery. Also, for always helping in the nursery where possible.*
- *Tina S for 'Being such a supportive and proactive Manager'.*

If you wish to nominate a member of staff throughout the year for anything, which you feel, deserves this recognition, please feel free to e-mail us or speak to *Tina as we appreciate your feedback.*

#### **Some Important Dates for your Diary 2018**

Children Christmas Carols Evening	11 <sup>th</sup> December 4.30-5.30pm (St. Marys Church, Sawston).
Children's Xmas Party	13 <sup>th</sup> December 2018
Father Christmas visit (TBC)	14 <sup>th</sup> December 2018
Christingle	19 <sup>th</sup> December 10am (Sunflower Room only)
Children Christmas Dinner	19 <sup>th</sup> December 2018
Last day of term	24 <sup>th</sup> December 2018
Staff Training Day	2 <sup>nd</sup> January 2019
Nursery Re Opens	3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2019



Further information will be sent to you regarding the above events via e-mail so please keep a look out for details.

**Reminder**

*Please ensure you let us know if your child/ren, is/are in Nursery on Christmas Eve and ensure you have given your time for collection on this day to reception. This allows us to organise staff holiday entitlement.*

*Please also let us know if you are running late when your children are due in, as it can affect our plans to take children off site or them accessing activities in the nursery.*

**Best Wishes from Tina and the Sawston Team**



### *Apricot-Banana-Oat Muffins (Dairy and Sugar Free)*

*This recipe makes 12 portions of about 50g*

#### **INGREDIENTS**

*100g Wholemeal flour*

*50g porridge oats*

*2 teaspoons baking powder*

*60g Dairy free marg.*

*1 large banana (about 150g without skin)*

*4 fresh apricots (about 200g) peeled and stone removed or 75g dried apricots*

*(You can substitute apricots for any fruit such as diced Pear, apple, pineapple or peach).*

*1 medium free-range egg*

*3 tablespoons semi skimmed milk*

#### **METHOD**

- 1. Heat the oven to 180° C, 350° F or gas mark 4.*
- 2. Rub together the flour, baking powder, oats and butter.*
- 3. Mash the banana.*
- 4. Beat the egg and milk and add to mixture.*
- 5. Stir in chopped fresh or dried apricots.*
- 6. Divide into 12 muffin cases and cook for about 15 minutes.*

