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| sawston_logo_white background | Image result for pictures of december**Newsletter****Issue Number 196**  **2019** |



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to our (very long end of the year) December 2019 Christmas Newsletter.

***Christmas is a time for family and friends to come together and share in the magic and wonder of this special day. May your Christmas be full of fun, smiles, joy and laughter with the New Year bringing good health and happiness for you all.***

A reminder to everyone, please remember to buy your raffle tickets from admin where you could win a magnificent hamper. The draw will take place on 18th December and all proceeds will be used to support the nursery in the purchase of new resources and equipment needed. We also have reindeer food on sale for 50p a bag so please take the time to see what is available in reception as you are passing through. You may even like to try the lucky dip for £1 a go!

**A Message from the Bluebell & Buttercup Room**

Welcome to Bluebell and Buttercup Room.

This month we are getting ready for the festive season. We will have a variety of Christmas themed activities planned for the children, including, sensory play with baubles, glitter and fake snow. Christmas crafty ideas with Xmas cards and many other surprises are also in store. We will be enjoying walks around the village to admire the Christmas lights.

A reminder that we will be having our Christmas sing-a -long on the 19th December 2019 at 4.30pm. If your child does not normally attend on a Thursday and you would like to attend, please come along and join us. Please be aware that you will need to stay with your child, because they will not be included in the staff ratios for this day. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible.

**Polite Note**

If we could remind all parents to remove their shoes before they enter the room and remove your children’s shoes. We would like to ask that all children bring in a pair of shoes to wear in the garden if your child is ‘up and about’ on their feet and to remember to bring in your child’s water beaker, which will be familiar to them.

**If all children could bring in a named warm winter coat** because it is very cold outside, and we do like to go out in the garden to play where possible.



**What’s happening in the Daffodil Room?**

Welcome to Daffodil Room.

This month Daffodil room will be focusing on Christmas and Winter, exploring the cold weather. Activities will involve ice play in the sensory trays and lots of paint and glitter to explore. We will be talking about the changes in the season and of course Father Christmas. This time of year, glitter play is a favourite where children can have the opportunity to get creative. So, please be prepared for some glittery artwork coming home. 😊

Please could we ask that all parents/carers remember to sign your child in and out of the nursery in line with Health and Safety and Safeguarding policies.

Please could you provide a pair of named wellington boots for your child so we can change into these whilst playing and exploring in the woodland area during our Outdoor Learning sessions.

**A Message from Poppy Room**

Welcome to Poppy Room.

In Poppy room this month we will be focusing on Winter and Christmas time. We will be exploring lots of sensory activities and using our senses to explore the cold weather. Children will also be able to create some wonderful Christmas crafts to bring home and share with you at this festive time of year. We will also be using our senses to explore Christmas, involving cinnamon playdough and gingerbread men.

The children will have lots of opportunities to tell us all about their own Christmas experiences and beliefs, so we will be talking to them about this festive time and their celebrations within their family.

If parents could bring in a named water bottle every day and remember to take it home for a wash at the end of the session, we would be grateful.

Furthermore, please could we have a pair of **named wellies** for your child and **warm clothing** for colder weather conditions.

Finally, please sign your child in and out on the signing in register.

**Sunflower Room**

Welcome to Sunflower Room.

Our December topic of ***‘Isn’t He Lovely’*** starts a month of Christmas crafts, Nativity stories and ‘The Gingerbread Man’ related activities.

Can we please ask for your help with continuing to support the children with developing their independence; especially with dressing and undressing in preparation for lots of PE changing in preparation for ‘School readiness’.

Please provide a warm coat, wellingtons, hats, scarves and gloves as the children enjoy being outside and need to be wearing warm clothing.

Can we please ask that you return any borrowed clothes as soon as possible. We have sent children home in lots of nursery clothes and our supplies are running low.

If parents could please remember to take home your child’s water bottle every day for washing, this would be appreciated.

**Staff News**

We welcome Chloe M to our team who will be working in all rooms across the nursery training to be a Nursery Practitioner. This is Chloe’s first post in childcare so please take the time to welcome her and say hello.

Please be aware that we have a couple of staffing changes which will take place for January 2020. Please be reassured that these changes are for the benefit of the nursery and quality care provided for your children. The changes will be sent to you in a separate e mail before the end of the month.

Remember if you wish to nominate a member of staff in the nursery for something specific please write your nomination on the post-it notes at the reception desk and post in the nominations box. Alternatively, you can e-mail Tina with your nomination.

**Christmas Jumper Day/ Christmas Party – Friday 13th December**

We have in reception a sweep stake for parents and a sweep stake for staff running now, which you can all take part in to raise money for Save the Children Fund.

We will all also be wearing our Christmas Jumpers for the day.

The magical Mr Marvel will be entertaining us at the Christmas Party on Friday 13th December from 2.30 until 3.30pm. This will be followed by our Christmas Party Tea starting at 4pm. We are hoping that Father Christmas will surprise the children and visit us during the morning session where children will receive a small gift.

There is a gift for all children in the nursery so if your child does not attend this session their present will be given to them when they are next in nursery by their key person.

**Church Christmas Carols 10th December**

Sunflower Room, Poppy Room and Daffodil Room children will be walking to church for this event at approximately 4pm to start our performance at 4.30pm prompt, with a 5pm finish. If you would like to take your child home straight after the event, please do remember to sign your children out with your child’s room leader before you leave the church.

A special thank you to Karen Salter for taking the Christmas Production on board, editing a script as well as co-ordinating and leading rehearsals over the last three weeks. Karen, the Room Staff and the children have all worked extremely hard to learn songs and put a production together in the short time they have had.

We look forward to seeing parents, grandparents and siblings at this event.

Karen is making a programme that will be available on the day with all the

song words in so that you can sing the songs with your children over the Christmas break!

(Please keep a look out for our lovely kitchen assistant, Diane who will be serving mince pies and mulled wine at the back of the church. All donations will be gratefully received).

**Buttercups and Bluebells Christmas Gathering Thursday 19th December 2019**

Buttercup and Bluebell Room will be having their own Christmas gathering to include some Christmas songs on Thursday 19th December 2019 in their rooms. If your child does not normally attend nursery on Thursday, they will still be welcome to join us, if we can just remind parents that you will be responsible for your own children due to ratios in the room already being allocated to the children already in nursery. Therefore, you will need to accompany your child and stay with them during the Christmas gathering.

**Special thanks to Leisa our nursery Chef**

Leisa has been a super star over the last few weeks and indeed will continue to be in our lead up to Christmas. She baked all our wonderful Christmas Cakes and Chutneys that have been available to purchase in Reception. They were very popular and sold out in record time! Leisa has also organised the Christmas Meat Hamper and we are very grateful to her and Searles our local butchers (Providers of meat for the nursery). Leisa will be providing snacks and refreshments for the Christmas Production at the Church and baking cakes for the impending Cake Sale. Special thanks to all the kitchen staff for their hard work and commitment in providing such lovely meals for the children in the nursery and we are all looking forward the Christmas dinner ladies😊

**Daffodil Room Cake Sale Wednesday 18th December 2019**

Daffodil Room have organised a Cake Sale as part of their fund raising towards a fence for their outdoor area. Early next year we hope to have an enclosed and sheltered outdoor area for the Daffodil Room to use as part of their free-flow every day. It would be amazing if you could help us get one step nearer this goal by purchasing some of the delicious cakes that will be on sale in reception on the 18th!



 **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.

**New Starters**

If your child has recently started at the nursery, please do not hesitate to talk to the staff members in the classroom, for information on how he/she is settling and to discuss any concerns you may have.

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.

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| **Happy December Birthday to:****Rosa G, Margot C, Olivia K, Eve W, Joshua SV, Theo W, Ruaridh W, Bethan P, Beatrix B, Megan D.** **Happy December Birthday to our staff:****Michelle B, Emma T, Tracy B**   |

**Some Important Dates for your Diary 2019**



St Mary’s Church Carolling 10th December 2019

Christmas Jumper Day 13th December 2019

Christmas Party 13th December 2019

Christmas Dinner 18th December 2019

Buttercup & Bluebell Christmas Gathering 19th December 2019

Christmas Closure 1pm Christmas Eve 2019

Nursery Re-Opens 2nd January 2020

Musical Bumps (Second Thursday of the month)

**Training Day Nursery Closed 7th May 2020**

**Training Day Nursery Closed 1st September 2020**

Further information will be sent to you regarding the above events via e-mail so please keep a look out for details, as sometimes changes to dates are unavoidable and could change.

**Thank you for your continued support and we would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year for 2020.**

**Best Wishes**

**Tina and the Sawston Nursery Team.**

