

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year to all our children and their families and we hope you all enjoyed your Christmas break and spending time with family wherever possible.

Welcome to our new families who have recently joined the nursery and we hope your child enjoys their time with us at Sawston Nursery.

We continue to work within the government guidelines and thank you for your continued understanding, patience, and support with regards to drop off and pick-up times. Please remember that if your child exhibits COVID symptoms whilst at the nursery we will call you to collect them. Please do not bring your child to nursery if they are unwell and remember to follow government guidance at [www.nhs.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms](http://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms)



(If you require a copy of our COVID Operation Plan and Risk Assessment please request this at [office@sawstonnursery.org](mailto:office@sawstonnursery.org)) although you should receive regular updates of these documents where changes are made. Please ensure you read the documents carefully so you are aware of the expectations with the regards to the effective running of the nursery.

Please can we remind you the weather is changing, please could you provide your child with suitable, warm clothing to include a **coat** and **wellies** for those rainy days. Please remember to write your child's name in their clothing and wellies to prevent upset to the child if items become lost.



**So, let's find out what has been happening across the Nursery:**

#### **Buttercup/Bluebell Room**

We hope you have had a wonderful Christmas and would like to wish our families a very Happy New Year!



Our theme for this month will be winter. Alongside the many sensory activities on offer linked to winter, we are looking forward to creating some snowy animals.

We will be practising our mark making skills by creating our very own independent winter scenes. It would be fantastic if you could share some Christmas pictures with us to be displayed on our photo board which links into our learning about people and communities.

Please continue to provide warm winter clothing for your child to wear outdoors.

#### **Daffodil Room**

We hope you all had a lovely Christmas break and would like to wish you all a very Happy New Year.

In December we had great fun getting messy with all our Christmas crafts and enjoyed exploring frosty sensory play and melting snowmen in our sensory tray along with ice skating play.

In January we will continue looking at winter, creating snowy scenes, talking about winter animals, and venturing out on winter walks looking at the changes to our natural environment.

### **Poppy Room**

We hope you all had a great Christmas and Poppy room staff would like to wish all their families a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

This month we will be focussing on a Wonderful Winter!

We will be looking at ice and frosty pictures. Talking about the clothes we need to be wearing in winter and why.

We will also be looking at which animals like to be out in the cold winter weather and which animals like to hibernate during the winter months. How animals feed themselves during a snowy winter month will be a question we hope to answer and how we can help to feed animals during winter.

### **Sunflower Room**

A Happy New Year to you all!

In January 2021, our topic will be 'Polar, Penguins, Posy and Plip'.

The story tells of a penguin called Plip who loses his comforter. In phonics the children will be learning to use alliteration within the topic, for example, Pretty Penguins, Fast Fox, Wise Wolf, Pouncing Polar bear, Slippery Seal, Wonderful Whale and Whiskery Walrus.

We will be focussing on friendships, helping our friends and kindness, all of which are the basis for this lovely story.

To support our development in Understanding the World, we will be learning about polar animals, habitats and which animals live in the Arctic and which live in the Antarctic.

### **Staff Nominations**

Please remember to send in your staff nominations if you believe a member of the team deserves a small reward for working above and beyond their role. Just send an e mail to [tina.spencer@sawstonnursery.org](mailto:tina.spencer@sawstonnursery.org) and your nomination will be recognised.

This month the staff below have received your nominations:

**Katie:** For her kindness and settling Barnaby into the nursery with care and support.

**Karen Sa:** For keeping the children entertained. Eve absolutely loves her stories and her ukulele playing, she talks about Karen constantly!

**Shani:** For taking time to give a superb handover at the end of the day remembering to share important information. Also, for her lovely smile (David's mummy).

**Emma:** For remaining so positive, professional, and calm through what has been a very challenging couple of weeks dealing with the corona virus situation within the nursery. (Buttercup/Bluebell staff).

Congratulations to all the above staff, who should be very proud of themselves for their hard work and dedication to working with children across the nursery.

**Managers Award for the month is awarded to:**



**Emma T** - Nominated by Tina S for your commitment, hard work and being such a reliable member of our amazing team. Thank you, Emma, for stepping up and managing the nursery in my absence and keeping everything running smoothly.

**A note from Tina:**

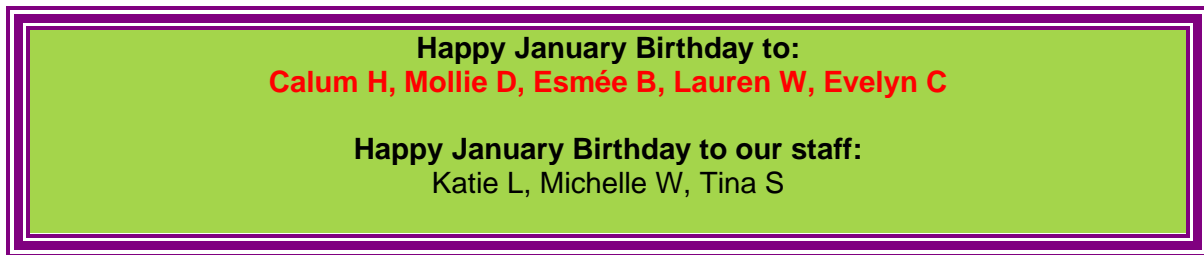
*Hello everyone, I trust you are all keeping well in these challenging and difficult times we are experiencing. Thank you for your continued support whilst Nursery staff work hard to accommodate our family's needs and ensure staffing ratios are in place to provide care for the children.*

*As most of you are aware, I have been absent from the nursery due to a hip operation and I hope to be returning at the end of February. I have to say, I have missed all the children, families, staff and Nursery life in general. Therefore, I am looking forward to coming back soon and look forward to seeing you all again.*

*In the meantime, thank you to all the staff at Sawston Nursery for their hard work and to all families for supporting the Nursery. Please take care and stay safe.*

Best Wishes

Tina 😊



**Some Important Dates for your Diary 2020**

**Staff Training Day CLOSED**

**Nursery reopens**

Musical Bumps

Grandparents Week

Parents Evening

Group Photographs

Preschool Leavers Trip

Preschool Leavers Graduation

**Training Day Nursery Closed**

Individual Photographs

Parents Evening

Half Day closure Christmas Eve

**4<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

**5<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

TBC

14<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> February 2021 (TBC)

TBC May 2021

TBC May 2021

TBC June 2021

TBC July 2021

**31<sup>st</sup> August 2021**

TBC October 2021

TBC November 2021

24<sup>th</sup> December 2021 (1pm finish)



**Bank Holidays for 2021**

**Good Friday**

**Easter Monday**

**Early Bank Holiday**

**Spring Bank Holiday**

**Summer Bank Holiday**

**Christmas Day (substitute day)**

**2<sup>nd</sup> April 2021**

**5<sup>th</sup> April 2021**

**3<sup>rd</sup> May 2021**

**31<sup>st</sup> May 2021**

**30<sup>th</sup> August 2021**

**27<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

**Boxing Day (substitute day)**  
**New Year's Day (substitute day)**

**28<sup>th</sup> December 2021**  
**03<sup>rd</sup> January 2022**

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.

**Best Wishes**  
**Sawston Nursery Team**