



NEWS

Welcome back to all of our returning children and families, and a big welcome to all our new children and families. If you have any queries, please speak to us as soon as matters arise.

Important dates for your diary

For term dates and Teacher Training Days, please see the last two pages of this newsletter.

Diwali Celebration - Wednesday 23rd October

Parent Consultations Evenings - Week commencing 11th November (dates TBC)



Parents' Breakfast - Our Curriculum

Wednesday 20th and Friday 22nd November at 9:30

Parents' Breakfast - How to Support Your Child's Literacy Skills

Wednesday 22nd and Friday 24th January 2025 at 9:30



- Please ensure that you label all of your child's belongings that come into nursery, coats, clothes, bags, lunch boxes. Thank you
- We provide the children with drinks of water at regular intervals and they have independent access to drinking water throughout the day. Please note that the children do not need to bring a water bottle with them to nursery, unless they have a packed lunch.
- Applications for primary school places for September 2025 can be made from 1st October 2024 to 11:59am on 15th January 2025 for children that turn 4 during this academic year
- Time Keeping - please make sure that you arrive promptly at the correct time for your child's nursery session. This is really important to ensure children can be greeted and settled properly without disrupting learning.

Winter Wonderland

Wednesday 18th December

Parents/ carers will accompany their children to enjoy the wonders of our winter extravaganza!



We will be sending invitations to you shortly after half term.

World Mental Health Day

We will be showing our support for World Mental Health Day on Wednesday 9th October by asking the children to wear a yellow item of clothing, should they wish.

**Wear
it loud.
Wear
it proud.**

Messy Play Items Needed

We are always in need of any donations you can provide for the children's sensory and messy play materials. These include items such as flour, rice, pasta, corn flour, mashed potato, shaving foam, couscous and lentils. All donations are gratefully received and are well-utilised as valuable resources for the children's learning.

For more information regarding our child-centred curriculum, please see our school website and social media pages.

SEN/D Coffee Mornings

Thursday 17th October - 09:30 - 12:00

Visit from Anna, Specialist Teacher from the Communication and Autism Team

Thursday 14th November - 09:30 - 12:00

Craft Session - Rock Photo Holders

Thursday 19th December - 09:30 - 12:00

Christmas Craft Workshop



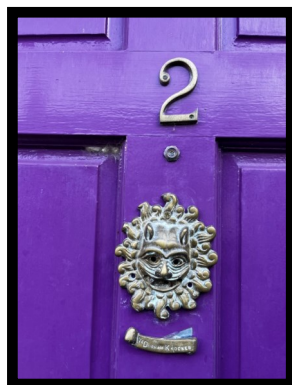
Thursday 16th January - 09:30 - 12:00

Visit from Ann, Specialist Teacher from Pupil and School Support

Home/ School Learning

Thank you to all of our families that have shared photographs of their families on their child's Tapestry learning journal. These images are a valuable part of our project work.

Please continue to share photos of your front door and any numbers that you see whilst you are 'out and about'. These photographs have been displayed in our learning environments to support the children's concept of number in a range of contexts.



If you are unsure of how to upload photos and videos onto Tapestry, please see Laura or Amanda.



We would like to congratulate three members of our team...

Julie and Maggie for successfully completing the Early Years Professional Development Programme.

Sarah has successfully gained her accreditation as an Attention Autism Advance Practitioner.

They have all been studying for these qualifications for a year and completed a great deal of their work during their own time.

We are very proud of them and our whole team!



Further information regarding our curriculum and how this impacts upon your child's learning and development can be found on our Nursery School Website: **www.allenscn.sch.life** and our social media pages.

Allens Croft Attendance Awards



High levels of attendance at nursery has a huge impact on children's learning and development and is a fundamental part of all of our children fulfilling their potential. Evidence from the DfE shows that the students with the highest attendance throughout their time in school gain the best GCSE and A Level results.

To recognise and celebrate good attendance, each half term, we will give attendance certificates to every child who has at least 90% attendance (appointments for children with medical needs and SEND will not impact on this.) We would love to give as many of these out as possible each half term.

We are excited to see how many children will achieve an attendance award at the end of this half term!

SAFEGUARDING

We Take Safeguarding Seriously

Safeguarding is of the Utmost Importance to Us

Our school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of all children and expects our staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Under procedures laid down by the Education Authority, the Head Teacher is responsible for child protection and has a legal obligation to take appropriate action where non-accidental injury or abuse of any kind is suspected. It is the duty of every adult coming into contact with the children to refer any concerns regarding a child's welfare to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL). Our Designated Safeguarding Leads are:

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| - David Aldworth | - Claire Thorns |
| - Laura O'Neill | - Julie McCarthy |
| - Amanda Smith | - Maggie Penny |
| - Sarah Roberts | - Kelly Penman |

If you have any concerns that a child has been harmed, is at risk of harm, or you receive a disclosure, please contact main reception as soon as possible and ask to speak to a designated person named above. Our first priority is your child's welfare and therefore there may be occasions when our concern about your child means that we must consult other agencies even before we contact you. The procedures we follow have been laid down by the Birmingham Safeguarding Children Board. The school may disclose your child's personal data to statutory bodies where we consider it necessary within the requirements of the Data Protection Act.

A copy of our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy (September 2024) is available on our website: <https://allenscn.sch.life/page/detail/school-policies-documents-and-links>

If anything concerns you or worries you, please report it to us immediately on (0121) 675 0362

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

eSafety is constantly in the news and of growing importance to us all. You may find these websites helpful in supporting your child when using the internet.

www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety

www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents

Please also see our Internet Safety Leaflet: [Allens Croft Nursery School - Letters](#)

MOBILE PHONES

Our e-Safety policy stipulates that mobile phones are not allowed in nursery, this includes staff, visitors and parents. Please do not use your phone in the building.



Dates for Your Diary 2024-25

(Reviewed September 2024)

Teacher Training Dates – Nursery Closed to all Children

Monday 4th November 2024

Friday 14th February 2025

Monday 21st July 2025

(These dates may be subject to change)

Nursery is closed on the dates listed below for Term-Time Only Children

Monday 28th October 2024 – Friday 1st November 2024

Back to Nursery on Tuesday 5th November

Monday 23rd December 2024 – Friday 3rd January 2025

Back to Nursery on Monday 6th January

Monday 17th February – Friday 21st February 2025

Back to Nursery on Monday 24th February

Monday 11th April – Friday 25th April 2025

Back to Nursery on Monday 28th April

Monday 26th May – Friday 30st May 2025

Back to Nursery on Monday 2nd June

Monday 21st July 2025

Back to Nursery in September 2025 for returning children



Bank Holiday Dates – Nursery Closed to All Children

Wednesday 1st January 2025 – New Year Bank Holiday

Friday 18th April 2025 – Good Friday Bank Holiday

Monday 21st April 2025 – Easter Monday Bank Holiday

Monday 5th May 2025 – May Day Bank Holiday

Monday 26th May 2025 – Spring Bank Holiday

Monday 25th August 2025 – August Bank Holiday

Day Care and Play Scheme will be running during the following Holidays

Places can be booked through the nursery office

Play scheme will run Monday to Thursday unless otherwise advertised

Monday 28th October – Thursday 31st October 2024

Monday 17th February – Thursday 20th February 2025

Monday 14th April – Thursday 17th April 2025

Nursery Shut Down Weeks – Closed to all children

Monday 23rd December – Friday 3rd January 2025

Back to Nursery Monday 6th January 2025

Monday 21st April – Friday 25th April 2025

Back to Nursery Monday 28th April 2025

Induction Dates

Stay and Play Session for Returning and New to Centre Children and their families

Friday 11th July 2025