

# MATT TALBOT NURSERY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Themes: Winter Shape: Oval Rectangle Colour: White/Black/Grey Number: 0-5

January 2023

## HOW YOU CAN HELP:

- Read 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears' or 'The Three Little Pigs' or The Three Billy Goats Gruff - as you read encourage your child to join in with repetitive phrases, count along with you using the pictures in the book, predict what comes next and handle books with confidence and care.
- Look for number 1-5 indoors and outdoors - on the computer, on the television and remote control, on the phone, doors, bins and car registrations etc.
- Talk about People Who Help Us at home, in school and in the community - mum, dad, sister, brother, granny, granddad, teacher, friend, nurse, doctor, dentist, postman, refuse man etc.
- App of the month - Bee-Bot. -In school the children will have the chance to use both Bee-Bot and the Bee-Bot app. The app makes use of keypad functionality and enables children to improve their skills in directional language and programming through sequences of forwards, backwards left and right 90 degree turns.



## DATES TO REMEMBER:

- Fri 6<sup>th</sup> Jan: New Term Begins: This will be a full school day
- Tues 10<sup>th</sup> Jan: Nursery and Primary application online process begins
- Tues 10<sup>th</sup> Jan: Firefighter visit for children
- Fri 13<sup>th</sup> Jan: Pyjama Day - Parents to come to school at 12.45pm.
- Fri 13<sup>th</sup> Jan: Mindfulness with Laura
- Wed 25<sup>th</sup> Jan: Gathering Drums with Joe
- Friday 27<sup>th</sup> Jan: Nursery and Primary applications online process ends
- Every Wednesday: Music Therapy with Karen
- Every Thursday: Jump Jiggle and Jive with Melissa
- Every Friday: Visit to Matt Talbot Youth Club

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Sun 15<sup>th</sup> Sofie

Sun 22<sup>nd</sup> Eire

Mon 30<sup>th</sup> Lucas



## MINI EXPLORERS

Mini Explorers come into schools and nurseries and carry out a series of workshops which aim to promote mental well-being in parents and children. These workshops use multi-sensory play and a combination of fun mindfulness and yoga based activities.



## PEOPLE WHO HELP US

Various people will hopefully visit the children throughout the month of January to talk about their jobs and how they help the community:



the Firemen, the Ambulance and the police.



The children will write a letter and then visit the local post office with their teachers to buy stamps and post their letters home. If you would like to come into the Nursery and talk to the children about your job please see Mrs McStravick.

## MUSIC THERAPY

Karen Diamond, a music therapist, will be coming into the nursery on Wednesday mornings to work with some of the children. Music Therapy is a fun way for children to develop a range of skills which equip them as they move into primary school. The skills include:

- Speech and language/communication e.g. encouraging vocal sounds
- Social skills through increased turn taking and improved listening
- Sensory development e.g. tolerance of sounds, touch and space
- Motor development e.g. movement and muscle control
- Cognitive development, especially attention and concentration skills



## GATHERING DRUMS NI

Joe works with children to create and share a powerful and energizing experience through the medium of drums and percussion. The children will have fun, develop confidence, learn a new skill and build a sense of teamwork. Gathering Drums will be visiting the nursery at various times over this academic year.



## JUMP JIGGLE & JIVE

Jump Jiggle and Jive is an interactive dance programme that is aimed at young children.

Jemma or Melissa the instructors will be visiting our nursery and delivering this fun programme. Please ensure your child comes to school dressed appropriately on Thursdays.



## PYJAMA DAY

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2023- The children are allowed to come into nursery school in pyjamas. We are using this date to emphasise the importance of a proper bedtime routine for your children and the tremendous impact that regularly reading stories has to your child's development.

We are inviting parents into the school slightly earlier at 12.45pm for a short information session. Children will go straight home with parents after this. This will be a fun day for the children with lots of stories, hot chocolate and hopefully some special visitors.



## NURSERY APPLICATIONS

### NURSERY APPLICATION FORMS 2023/2024

Online application forms are available from Tues 10<sup>th</sup> - Fri 27<sup>th</sup> January 2023 for Nursery and Primary 1 places in September 2023. Log onto the Education Authority website below to process your application.

If your child will be returning to Matt Talbot Nursery School for a second year you also need to apply online. **Please notify family members and friends who may want to apply for Nursery of the closing date and that the process must be done online.** If anyone need assistance completing an online application form, they can call into the Nursery during January and the staff will be happy to help.

<https://www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions>

### NURSERY VIDEO

We have posted a video to showcase our nursery on the website. Please support our school and encourage family and friends who have young children of nursery age to consider our school and watch our video. We are happy to arrange visits to the nursery by appointment only for prospective families.

## KEY DATES FOR PARENTS : ADMISSIONS PROCESS FOR PRE-SCHOOL SEPTEMBER 2023

For target age children born on or between 2 July 2019 and 1 July 2020

For under age children born on or between 2 July 2020 and 1 July 2021

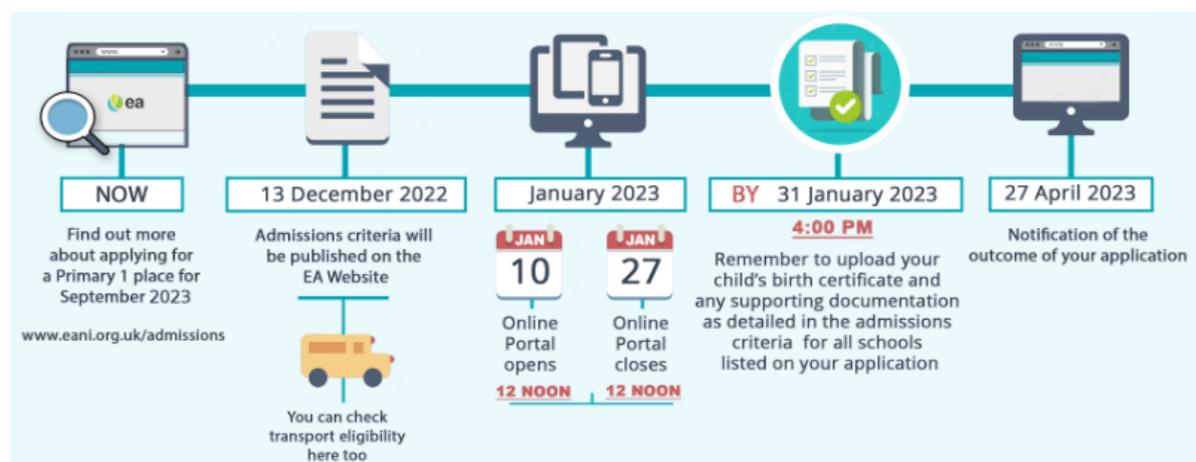
*If you are deferring your child from starting Primary school, you can apply for a Pre School place*



## KEY DATES FOR PARENTS – APPLYING FOR PRIMARY ONE ADMISSION – SEPTEMBER 2023

Children born on or between 2 July 2018 and 1 July 2019 are compulsory school age in September 2023

Children born on or between 2 July 2019 and 1 July 2020 can apply for a place in a reception class



### CHILDREN WHO ARE UNWELL

Children who are unwell should be kept at home especially if they have been given Calpol or Nurofen. If they are sick enough to be medicated then they are too sick for school. Please be aware that if your child has had vomiting/diarrhoea they must stay out of school for 48 hours after they have last been sick or passed a loose bowel movement. These measures are in place to stop the spread of disease amongst other children and staff. We thank you for your co-operation in this matter.



### ADVERSE WEATHER POLICY: INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Procedures used in the decision to close Matt Talbot Nursery School in the event of adverse weather conditions.

A decision to close the school would never be taken lightly and would involve all staff members.

- A decision will be made, as far as possible, before 8.30am as to whether the school should be open or needs to be closed.
- Parents will be sent a seesaw message.
- In the event of closure, the school will send a message to BBC Website using a pre-arranged security code to allow them to broadcast the information to the general public.



### COLD WEATHER

As the weather is colder please ensure you send your child to school wearing warm clothing and with a coat. In school we try and get outside every day.

