

The Sunflowers Day Nursery



PART OF THE LAURELS GROUP OF NURSERIES

www.the-laurels.net

Christmas Newsletter 2011

Festive Dates for your Diary:

From **Thursday 1st December** our bright red Christmas post box will be available in the entrance hall offering a daily postal service for the children to send Christmas cards to their friends and letters to Father Christmas.

On **Thursday 22nd December** a fancy dress Christmas party has been arranged for the children between 3.00pm & 5.00pm.

Parents, if your child does not attend Nursery during this session you are most welcome to bring them along and stay to join in with the festive fun.

Carols by Candle Light
The children will be singing Christmas Carols by candle light in the outdoor play area on **Wednesday 14th December**.

Parents or Grandparents are very welcome to come along and enjoy a warm mince pie and mulled fruit punch whilst joining in with the singing!

Christmas Lunch!

Colin, our Nursery cook, will be preparing the children a delicious traditional Christmas lunch on **Wednesday 21st December**.

'Sunflowers' Christmas Performance

Following the success of last years Christmas Play the children in Sunflowers will be performing 'Start, Shine, Star' On **Tuesday 20th December** Everyone involved is enthusiastically

rehearsing Christmas songs and looking forward to dressing up in festive costumes. Parents will receive invitations for the performances nearer the time.

Festive Competition

Our festive competition this year is called 'design a Christmas Bauble'. All the children can enter if they wish and it is an ideal opportunity for your child to be creative at home. The baubles will need to be brought along to Nursery no later than **Tuesday 13th December** and all entries will be displayed on the Christmas tree in the hallway.

Helen will be selecting a winner and awarding a special prize for the most creative bauble but all the children who enter will receive a certificate for their efforts.

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Staff News at The Sunflowers Day Nursery

Firstly we would like to welcome two new members of staff to Sunflowers. Denise Gamble, the new Assistant Manager for the baby unit joins us with lots of experience working with under two's which has recently been demonstrated in the successful settling in process she has introduced for our new intake of babies.

Zoe Woods, a level three practitioner, has settled well in Buttercups and is developing strong bonds with children, parents and staff.

Michelle has gone on maternity leave and given birth to a healthy baby girl who she has named Imogen. Congratulations to the family from all at Sunflowers.

We say goodbye and good luck to Vanessa in pre-school as she heads off to America to take up a nanny position and also to Olivia who is leaving at the end of November to start a new career in New Zealand.



The Sunflowers Day Nursery

Fees 2012

We are delighted to be able to confirm that there will be no increase in fees at The Sunflowers Day Nursery in January!

We have given the matter a great deal of thought and we bear in mind the very difficult climate that everyone is facing, but we do not wish to make all parents and carers financial balancing act more difficult by adding to their existing childcare costs. The freeze in fee scales will be put in place until October 2012 when it will be reviewed when we know the extent of the Governments minimum wage figure which has the main effect on our own costs as a business.



Thanks to all the children who helped raise £50 on our Halloween Fun Day all the money raised will be going to The Brain Injury Unit

Please note the following important information!



AT THE END OF 2010 WE WERE INSPECTED BY OFSTED AND WE WERE DELIGHTED TO GAIN OUTSTANDING AWARDS I:-
"SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN"
"RELATIONSHIPS WITH PARENTS AND CARERS"
"THE EXTENT TO WHICH CHILDREN FEEL SAFE"
WELL DONE TO OUR MANAGEMENT AND STAFF TEAMS ALIKE!

Winter Clothing

Parents, during the cold winter months please can you send your child to Nursery fully prepared to enjoy outdoor activities in suitable warm clothing and footwear. Please don't forget to clearly label your child's belongings.

Christmas & New Year Holidays

The Nursery will be closed for the Christmas and New Year holidays on the following days:

Monday 26th & Tuesday 27th December & Monday 2nd January.

Children in Need



Thank you to everyone who helped us raise a grand total of £234.65 for Children In Need

Charity Fun Day

On Sunday November 20th the Nursery organised a Fun Day to help raise funds for Children in Need. Everyone who supported the event had a great time especially the children and we raised £122.49 on the day!

Additions to our Nursery Group

We are delighted to be able to announce that, on the 28th October, we purchased a company called Childspace Limited which has three Nurseries based in Leicestershire.

The new Nurseries are located in Oadby, Narborough and on the Knighton Road in Leicester and all have the "Childspace" name as part of their ownership.

Welcome to all staff and parents to The Laurels Group of Nurseries!



Khiera and her mummy came to Nursery in saris to help with the Diwali celebration!

Cooking with Colin

We are constantly striving to keep our children healthy and with this in mind we have introduced 'cooking with Colin'. Colin, our chef will be helping the children to learn more about how food is prepared and the benefits of healthy eating. The children will help prepare nutritious and tasty snacks and if any of you have any suitable children's recipes we can introduce into these sessions, please share them with us or even come in and help the children and staff to prepare them.



A very Merry Christmas
And a Happy New Year
From all the staff at
The Sunflowers Day Nursery