

Welcome

Dear Parents and Carers,
Welcome to our September newsletter! We hope you have all had a lovely summer and are looking forward to the new term ahead.

We would like to extend a very warm welcome to all of our new children and families joining us this September. We are delighted to have you as part of our nursery family and look forward to getting to know you and your children.

Funding Reminder & Key Dates

A gentle reminder to ensure that all funding forms, eligibility codes and required paperwork are up to date. This is a requirement in order for us to receive funding. As per our terms and conditions if the above is not completed and funding cannot be claimed an invoice will need to be issued.

Please speak to a member of the team if you are unsure about your child's funded hours or have any questions regarding your sessions.

Please also keep an eye on our usual communications for important dates and deadlines throughout the term.

In order to remain eligible for funding you must reconfirm every three months, please look out for your reminders to login to your government account. Important deadlines for new codes to be obtained or renewed:

Autumn Term 31st August
Spring Term 31st December
Summer Term 31st March



Contact details and change of address

Please ensure if any of your contact details for yourselves or emergency contacts

have changed that you let your key person know.

Emergency contacts must be able to get here quickly i.e within the hour, so please think about who you are putting as an emergency contact should we not be able to contact you.

If you have changed address since joining us, you must also let us know.



Outdoor Play – Whatever the Weather!

As we head into autumn, we will continue to make the most of our outdoor

environment. **Children will play outside whatever the weather**, so please ensure your child comes to nursery with appropriate clothing for the conditions.

Outdoor play is an important part of our daily routine and provides children with wonderful opportunities to explore, develop their physical skills and enjoy fresh air.

We would also like to remind parents that if you feel your child is **not well enough to play outside, then they are not well enough to attend nursery**.

We understand that children can have the occasional off day, but our priority must always be their wellbeing and that of the other children and staff.

Illness Reminder – Bug Season

As we approach the autumn and winter months, we know that the usual coughs, colds and bugs will start to make an appearance.

Please remember that children who are unwell should remain at home until they are well enough to return. Children should not come to nursery if they are taking regular Calpol.

We appreciate your support in helping us to reduce the spread of illness within the nursery.

We are a **small team**, and if several members of staff become unwell, this has a significant impact on our ability to operate safely and maintain appropriate staffing levels.

Keeping poorly children at home helps to protect other children, their families, our staff team and in turn keeping the nursery open to all.

IS YOUR CHILD TOO SICK FOR NURSERY TODAY?

RED LIGHT

Try Again Next Week
Fever of 101 degrees or higher
Wheezing or shortness of breath
Hard cough
Constant runny nose with yellow/green tint
Lethargy
Diarrhoea or vomiting
Redness or runny eyes
Sore throat or swollen glands
Undiagnosed rashes
Persistent itching
Uncovered sores
Unusual color

YELLOW LIGHT

Join us if parents can check-in a few times
Fever-free for 24 hours
Sporadic cough
Minimal green/yellow runny nose

GREEN LIGHT

Okay to come in and play!
Mild, infrequent cough
Clear runny nose
Active, playful, and rested

If in doubt, please stay out and try again next week.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Juice



In alignment with our gold healthy early years award requirements, it is essential that we consistently implement our policies; therefore, juice is not permitted in the nursery except for medical reasons or as part of a child's lunch.

Moving forward, if a child brings juice without prior discussion with their key person, it will be replaced with water.

September 2027 Primary School Applications

For families with children due to start primary school in **September 2027**, please make a note to keep an eye on the application process and key dates.

Further information and application deadlines will be shared with families as the relevant dates approach. Please ensure you apply within the required timeframe, as late applications can affect school place allocation. Please see the sign in the entrance for open days.

12th October

Application open for September 2027 primary applications

15th January

Closing date for primary applications

16th April

National Offer Day

Nursery Reminders

We know that it can be hard to remember everything from the home visit, so we have put together this handy list.

[REMEMBER LIST](#)



Snack Charge

Please remember to send snack charges on or before the 1st of each month (excluding the month of August).

This can be sent via direct debit with **snack and your child's name** as the reference.

This saves us lots of admin time sending reminder emails.

If we are claiming:

16-30 hours its £10.00 per month

15 hours or less is £5.00 per month



Christmas Party – 18th December

It may seem a little early to mention Christmas, but we want to make sure everyone has plenty of notice!

Our **Christmas Party** will take place on **18th December**.

Children will attend the **morning or afternoon** session

In accordance with our Terms and Conditions **there will be no full-day sessions available on the Christmas party day.**

Further details about the party will be shared nearer the time.

Dates for your diary

<https://kirkgatechildcare.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2026/09/HOLIDAY-DATES-2026-27-NEW.pdf>

Christmas Baubles & Reindeer Food



We will once again be making our lovely, personalised Christmas baubles this year.

The baubles will be clear and will contain a photo of your child at nursery, along with artificial snow, and will

be finished with a ribbon.

These make a lovely keepsake and are always very popular! Baubles will be charged separately and will only be made for children whose parents have placed an order.

£10 per bauble or £15 for two

If you would like one, please make sure you get your order in early so that we can ensure we have enough time and materials to make them.

We will also have our **Christmas Reindeer Food** available for **£2.00 per cone**.

More information about ordering to follow in October/November.

Please note that there have been updates to how the local authority pay settings for funded places, and we are no longer able to offer funded places to new children mid-term.

If your child has previously attended a nursery in North Yorkshire before joining us, starting with us must take place prior to the third Thursday of the new term in order for us to claim funding for that term.

Otherwise, parents will be responsible for covering the cost of the place for the remainder of the term or may choose to wait until the following term begins.

Similarly, any requests to increase a child's sessions must also be made before the third Thursday of the new term.

KEY REMINDERS

Weather Appropriate Clothing

With the cooler months upon us, please can you ensure that your child has appropriate clothing for colder and wetter weather.

Absence

Please note that we are unable to swap days or offer an alternative day if your child is absent from nursery. We are now extremely busy, and it is impossible for us to do this for all children. This is stated in our terms and conditions. Thank you for your co-operation.

Drop Off and Collection

Can we kindly remind you that we open at 7.30 am and close at 5.00 pm and any parents who pick up after this time will be charged. The same applies to our 12.30pm collection.

Lunchboxes

Please ensure your child's lunchbox includes an icepack and is clearly labelled.

Birthday Treats

Children are always welcome to bring in a treat to celebrate their birthdays, the only thing we don't allow is lollypops and marshmallows. We will place sweets in the entrance with the birthday child.

We will celebrate children's birthdays with our special birthday cake

Yellow Cone



We have one allocated parking space for parents for drop off and pick up. If you arrive at nursery and the car park is full, please feel free to move the cone to park.

Please place the cone back once leaving to allow other parents to park.

Pull ups

We kindly ask that, unless children are toilet training, they do not wear pull ups to nursery. Although pull ups are absorbent, they generally offer less leak protection than nappies of a similar size, as they are designed for children beginning to toilet train.

Staff have observed increased time spent changing children due to leaks from pull ups, which also results in children spending more time away from play activities and staff being occupied for longer periods.

Sickness and illness policy

<https://kirkgatechildcare.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/SICKNESS-AND-ILLNESS-POLICY.docx>

Together time

Children participate in together time from 3:15 to 3:30 pm. Parents are requested not to collect their children during this period to ensure uninterrupted participation in together time activities.

Parents who arrive after together time has begun will be asked to wait until it finishes.

