

Poppies Newsletter



Spring is hopefully on the horizon as February draws to a close – we still have some chilly days ahead so make sure your child has plenty of spare warm layers. Please check your child's bag to make sure their spare clothes fit them and are appropriate for the changeable weather.

We have had so much to celebrate here at Poppies. February has seen the children across both nurseries celebrating the Luna New Year, with dragons and noodles galore, hearts, roses, and plenty of pink for Valentine's Day, and pancakes for Shrove Tuesday.

At the time of writing, our Pre-school rooms are looking forward to an educational visit from Wessex water to learn about the importance of water.

Early next month we have the excitement of World Book Day (7th March), do keep a look out for what will be happening in your child's room, and our special Mother's Day Open Morning (6th March) for the significant people who fulfil 'Mothering' for your little one.

Dates for your diary

6th March - Mothers Day open morning 9am - 11am

19th March Parent's Evening - Appointment sheets will be available the week before.

21st & 28th Photographs - info closer to the time



OFSTED AT PERHAM POPPIES!

Poppies Perham had their Ofsted inspection earlier this month, and we are super proud to say that Poppies has been recognized once again as a 'Good' Nursery! The whole team have worked so hard to ensure that your children are receiving the absolute best Early Years experiences and Learning. Thank you to those parents who contributed to our inspection, chatting with the inspector on the day. The inspection report is available on the Ofsted Website [50239628 \(ofsted.gov.uk\)](https://www.ofsted.gov.uk)

"The managers plan a curriculum with a strong focus on developing children's communication, social and physical skills. Children's emotional well-being is particularly well nurtured which supports their learning and promotes positive behaviour." – *Ofsted 2024*

LEAVING FOR SCHOOL

Those of you who have applied for a school place for September 2024 will be hearing in April which school your child will be going to. We know your child leaving nursery is not at the forefront of your mind at this point in the year, but Diane will stretch your funding right up until 31st August, so if you would like your child to leave earlier than this, it really helps us to manage the allocation of your funding if you can let us know so Diane will stretch it over fewer weeks meaning you will be able to use more funded hours each week.

If you have any changes to your contact details, please update us. We also ask for an 'Emergency' contact other than yourself. This is very important and would only be used if all other contacts had failed.

Late pick up

Can we please remind you that the session finish time is the time that your child should be collected from nursery. If you are late picking up, please call us to let us know, so that we can organize the staffing accordingly.

If you are late this has a ripple effect as staff cannot leave to collect their own children and they then may get a late charge, the business also needs to compensate the staff for staying after their working hours.

A late pick-up charge will be applied if you are past the end time of the session (1pm, 3pm, 5pm & 5.30pm) Please see the fee sheet for details.

Lunches

Poppies offers flexibility in our lunchtime meal provision. Your child can enjoy a hot meal provided by Hungry Moose; please ensure that these are ordered on time and care is taken when completing the order form, as these are not prepared on site and changes to orders are not always possible. Hungry Moose will be increasing the **lunch fee from April to £3** to include a balanced healthy hot main and a dessert.

Alternatively, you can provide your child with a healthy packed lunch, please be mindful that these must be nut free - we do have individuals on our site with severe, life-threatening allergies. Please do check the products offered, in particular Pesto for nuts in the ingredients. Many Thanks.

Car Park

Please be mindful of your speed in the car park as they are very busy at drop off and pick up times. Ensure you are parking in the allocated bays so that other parents can also find parking spaces and can easily get their children in and out of the car.

Tax free childcare!

You can apply for tax-free childcare in addition to any funding you might be receiving. This can also be done through the Childcare Choices Website. For every £8 you pay into the account the government will put in another £2. As Tesco would say "every little helps" so it is well worth doing.

Funding from Childcare Choices

Please be aware that funding through the new government initiative for 2-, 3- and 4-year-olds and soon 9-month-olds is not automatically issued. You need to apply through www.childcarechoices.gov.uk and share your code with us to receive your funded childcare. There is lots of information on the site to help you. If you are looking to take up additional hours please email the nursery, as we are having a lot of enquiries, spaces are limited as we must meet legal requirements for our occupancy.

Bank Details

Please be aware we will now only be using one account for both Nurseries, all payments should be made to;

HSBC - Poppies Ltd.

Sort – 40 08 28

Account – 41594559

Please adjust if required, Many Thanks again.

