

## Important Dates 2020/21

### Christmas 2020

- Nursery closes Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> December 2020 at 12:00pm and reopens on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021 at 8:00am

### Nursery Closure Dates 2021

#### Easter

- Nursery will be closed from 6pm 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 and re open 12<sup>th</sup> April 2021 at 8:00 am.

#### Bank Holidays

- Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May
- Monday 31<sup>st</sup> May
- Monday 30<sup>th</sup> August

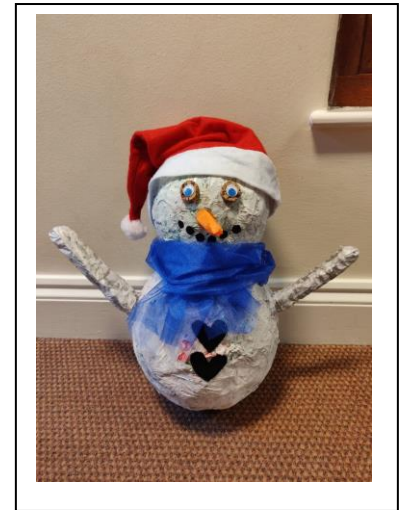
#### Staff Training Days

- Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> February
- Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> June
- Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> September
- Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November



**December 2020**

Manager Maria Zavros  
Deputy Manager Becky Sanderson



Dear Parents

As we come to end of what has been a very challenging year for everyone we would like to thank you for your ongoing support and adherence to our COVID guidelines. We hope that next year will bring a return back to something closer to normality and that everyone enjoys their break over the Christmas and New Year period.



Despite the current restrictions placed upon us the children have still been very busy, learning lots and keeping safe and happy. We have had great fun with our Halloween and Diwali activities and hope you have had a chance to look at our displays on our windows and railings. In our theme weeks we have been learning all about road safety, caring for our teeth and all about science. We have also had a theatre week where the children made puppets and learned new stories and songs and during our moving matters week the children challenged their physical abilities, building strength and stamina. We are now getting ready for Hanukkah and Christmas and will be having lots of fun and creative things to do

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throughout the whole month. Children are welcome to come in Christmas jumpers or their favourite fancy dress and on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December we will be having our Christmas dinner. To celebrate we will be wearing our sparkliest outfits.

## Staff

Sadly Maria Zavros, the Nursery Manager, will be leaving us on the 18<sup>th</sup> December. Maria has decided that she wants to spend more time with her family and explore caring opportunities. Maria has been with the nursery for 13 years starting as Bushbabies Room Leader and working her way up to Manager. She successfully completed her Level 5 qualification with us and has made a significant contribution to Scribbles over the years, bringing lots of new and fun ideas to the nursery. We would like to thank Maria for all her dedication over the years. She will be missed by everyone who has worked with her and we all wish her well for the future.

We are pleased to tell you that Becky Sanderson, the Deputy Manager, will be taking over as manager at Scribbles. Becky has been with Scribbles for 14 years, starting as a nursery assistant and completing both her Level 3 and Level 5 childcare qualifications with us. We would like to congratulate Becky on her well deserved promotion and look forward to her taking over as manager in the new year.

Sadly Alessia will also be leaving us in December. Alessia joined us 18 months ago and has been a valued member of Koalas and Wombats team. We would like to thank her for all her hard work and dedication during her time with us, we will all miss her. Alessia has decided to pursue a career working with special needs children and we wish her well and are sure she will succeed in this area.

We are currently recruiting for a new Deputy Manager due to Becky's promotion and are advertising to fill Alessia's position. We will keep you updated as we appoint new staff. In the meantime Koalas and Wombats children will continue to be cared for by Maria J, Anna, Kasia, Carmela, Misbah, Jo and Ngoc.

## Makaton Signs

As we get ready for Christmas we are busy using our Makaton to learn new words and sing songs. If this is something you would like to do with your child at home you can search 'singing hands makaton christmas' then you will be able to watch short videos of some christmas songs with your child and do the actions together.

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## Christmas Holidays

Now the government has clarified the position on what we are allowed to do safely over Christmas with family and friends can we please ask that you let us know of any holidays you might be planning to take in the run up to Christmas. This will help us plan staffing, food deliveries and when to give your child their Christmas present etc. For children who will be attending on 24<sup>th</sup> December we will give you revised timeslots for collection for that day as we will be closing at 12pm for the holidays.

## Choking

Following the tragic death of a child recently as a result of choking on a piece of sausage we thought it would be useful to remind everyone of what to do if your child is choking. You can download the poster [Free First Aid Posters | St John Ambulance \(sja.org.uk\)](https://www.sja.org.uk) for your fridge or visit [Learn first aid for babies and children \(redcross.org.uk\)](https://www.redcross.org.uk) which also has useful videos to demonstrate techniques. The Child Accident Prevention Trust website [Choking | Child Accident Prevention Trust \(capt.org.uk\)](https://www.capt.org.uk) also has lots of useful information on how to keep your child safe.

The majority of Scribbles staff are first aid trained and both they and the chef are aware of the hazards of choking and ensure that we minimise the risks by cutting up foods appropriately and always supervising children carefully while they eat. Staff have also refreshed their knowledge on dealing with and preventing choking in light of this tragic incident.

## Daynurseries.co.uk

Thank you to everyone who has written a review for us on [daynurseries.co.uk](https://www.daynurseries.co.uk). At the moment when we are unable to show prospective parents around the nursery it is especially important that they hear from you about your experiences at the nursery. If you haven't yet provided a review and would like to then you can do this by following the link [www.daynurseries.co.uk/submitreview](https://www.daynurseries.co.uk/submitreview), requesting a review card from us or scanning the QR code on the entry doors.

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