

Derby Montessori School Newsletter

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Please do visit our website (address above) for a comprehensive range of information, including term dates, the invoicing calendar and our Parent Handbook.

A link to our Facebook page can be found at the bottom of our website. The page is regularly updated with news of what the children have been doing at nursery, improvements to our provision, forthcoming events as well as information about places you may like to visit with your child/ren.

Reminder: term dates

The **funded** term will end on **Friday 21st July**.
The Toddler Community remains open until Friday 18th August.

Summer Club will run for 4 weeks:
Mon 24th July to Fri 18th August.

The whole school will be **closed from Monday 21st August to Tuesday 5th September 2017 inclusive**.

Term dates for the 2017-18 academic year are displayed on the courtyard noticeboard and will appear on our website.

Events: Montessori from the start

Monday 10th July 10.30-11.30 am

Does your child have a younger sibling or do you know anyone who may be interested in a place at Derby Montessori from September or early next year?

We are holding an open session to help parents to gain an understanding of what happens in a Montessori classroom and how this supports children to become independent learners.

Places are limited and must be booked in advance – please speak to a member of staff if you are interested.

Safety for all

We love to celebrate our children acquiring new skills but could all parents please ensure they **do not allow** their children to open the doors and gates. Please make it clear that **gates should only be opened by adults** and help us to keep our children safe.

Thank you for your support.

Summer Leavers:

Sadly we will say farewell to many of our Children's House children at the end of the summer term as they leave to join reception classes all around Derby and far beyond!

Many of the schools which these children will attend have already been in touch with us and we have welcomed several local reception class teachers to our classroom over the past month. Please be aware that in the interest of a smooth transition to their new class we will share information regarding all areas of your child's development – please speak to your child's key person if you would like to discuss this further.

In the final weeks of term Mrs Higgins, Miss Crane and Miss Bennett are busy ensuring

Staffing

Student: Mrs Burns, who runs a forest school in Lichfield, will be joining us each Wednesday and Thursday during term time for the remainder of this year and into 2018. Mrs Burns is undertaking teaching practice toward a Montessori Diploma from the MCI.

that the Tapestry accounts for our summer leavers are up to date and give a good reflection of their progress across the curriculum. The final document will be forwarded to you (to the e-mail account the school has on record) as a pdf document.

Summer Club: 3-8 years

Monday 24th July to Friday 18th August.

The emphasis is on having fun :-)

Rates: £4.49 per hour with a discounted rate of £2.16 per hour for additional hours after the first 20 in any one week.

Teddy Bear's Picnic

Monday 17th July , 12 noon to 2.00pm

Join us in the courtyard at Montessori House. Bring along a packed lunch and a teddy for an afternoon in the sun – fingers crossed! We will retreat to the Children's House in the unlikely event that the weather fails us :-)

We will provide juice and fruit. Please ensure you do not include any nuts in the food you bring.

Children booked to attend the afternoon session will return to the classroom after the event. Those parents who have attended the picnic and wish to leave with their child at 2.00 pm should ensure they alert a member of staff to update the register.

September – 30 hour offer

Deadline 31st August

Parents should visit the website www.childcarechoices.gov.uk to apply for an eligibility code to enable them to access extended entitlement hours. If you think you may be eligible for the autumn term 2017 the deadline for your application is the end of August 2017.

Please also contact the school office as we will need an indication of your desired attendance pattern as soon as possible.

You may have seen coverage in the media about the shortfall between funding rates and the cost of delivering early years education and childcare. To ensure the long term sustainability of the nursery there will be some changes, from September, to our pricing structure for funded children – this information has been e-mailed out and is on display on the courtyard noticeboard.

September attendance patterns

The autumn term will start on Wednesday 6th September. If you would like to make any changes to your child's attendance pattern please contact the school office before the end of the summer term.

From September we will be offering a new afternoon drop off time of 12.30 to allow a short afternoon 12.30 to 3.30 to be booked.

Notice periods and attendance

A reminder that two full calendar month's notice must be given of intention to withdraw your child, otherwise two full calendar month's fees are due in lieu of notice (see terms and conditions).

Government funding cannot be transferred to another provider mid-term and your contract with Derby City Council requires that you give at least 20 working days written notice (excluding statutory and bank holidays) to Derby Montessori before the commencement of the next term.

Sadly we do not take children into their reception year and therefore it is not necessary to give notice if your child will be leaving at the end of term to start school in September.