



The Dolphin  
Pre School and Nursery

# February Newsletter

## Dates for the Diary

### Tuesday 14th Feb

Valentine's Day

### Tuesday 28th Feb

Shrove Tuesday

### Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March

Red Nose Day 2017

### Sunday 26th Mar

Clocks change forward one hour.

Mother's Day

### 14th - 17th Apr - Easter

Weekend

### Sunday 23rd Apr - St

George's day  
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The Dolphin Family would like to wish a Happy Birthday to the following Children during February

8th Shiloh (3) & Rosie (4),  
15th Emilia (2), 17th Isla (2),  
17th Oliver (4), 23rd Cody (2),  
23rd Tom (3), 28th Lexi (3).

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Welcome to our February newsletter, we hope you have all survived what seems the longest month ever and are starting to look forward to the brighter evenings and hopefully warmer days!

### Learning Themes

This month learning themes are:-

Little Tots - Transport

Busy Bees - Shapes and Colours

Pre School - My world

### Parent/carer Questionnaire

Over the next couple of weeks and as part of our continued efforts to improve 'our' nursery, we will be sending out our annual parent/carer questionnaire. Please can we ask that you look out for it and make every effort to complete and return it to us.

We really enjoy reading your comments and suggestions, hopefully all good of course but it's also important for us to hear about things that may not be working quite so well. The survey will be available again online this year but as always a paper copy will be issued by request.

### About Me Books and Dolphin Book Bags

Can we please ask parents to remember to bring in your child's book bag at the start of each week. This enables their key person to update their About me Book with a short summary of what their week has entailed. The book is also a great way to communicate with you and we want parents/carers to feel involved in the wonderful activities we do with the children.

Could we also please ask that you check the bag at the end of the week, we use it to send home your child's work and/or letters from the team, some book bags still have Christmas things in them.

### The Early Years Pupil Premium

Since April 2015, early year providers have been able to claim extra funding to support children's development, learning and care. The Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) provides additional money for children whose parents are in receipt of certain benefits or who have been in the care system. This funding can only be claimed if the family is eligible and comes into effect the term after the child's 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday. We can use the extra funding in any way we choose to improve the quality of the early year's education that we provide for those children. This could include for example additional training for our staff on a variety of subjects to further our expertise or by supporting our staff in working on specialised areas such as speech and language, or extra resources.

Eligibility is checked centrally by Devon County Council but we are required to capture the data. Please can we ask that the forms recently sent out are returned even if you don't think you will be eligible, it allows DCC to have a full picture for the area.

### Let's Talk More Everywhere - Speech and Language initiative

Let's Talk More Everywhere is a project happening all over Devon in places where families with young children go. The long term aims are to improve speech and language outcomes for children and improve school readiness. It promotes early identification and provides the support required - moving away from the traditional "watch and wait" model often seen in the 2-3 age group. Every two months a new strategy will be the focus and will highlight what we can all do to help our children. The first strategy for January-February is

### ***'Be face to face with your child'***

Every time you talk to your child make sure you are face to face with them and down at their level

Why?

This makes it easier for them to hear what you say and see your mouth moving so that they can copy your sounds